

## POLITICAL GRIDLOCK

COLLEEN BARRY  
FRANCES D'EMILIO  
Associated Press

**ROME (AP)** — The prospect of political paralysis hung over Italy on Monday as near complete official results in crucial elections showed an upstart protest campaign led by a co-



People of Freedom party secretary Angelino Alfano at a press conference at the party headquarters to comment the first electoral results in Rome, Monday, Feb. 25, 2013.  
(AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

median making stunning inroads, and mainstream forces of center-left and center-right wrestling for control of Parliament's two houses.

The story of the election in the eurozone's third largest economy was shaping up to be the astonishing vote haul of comic-turned-political leader Beppe Grillo, whose 5 Star Movement has capitalized on a wave of voter disgust with the ruling political class.

Another surprise has been the return as a political force of billionaire media mogul Silvio Berlusconi, who was forced from the premiership at the end of 2011 by Italy's debt crisis, and whose forces now had a strong chance of coming out on top in the Italian Senate.

Continued on Page 3

## De Déjà Vu



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio responds to President Barack Obama's remarks to the nation's governors about how to fend off the impending automatic budget cuts, Monday, Feb. 25, 2013, on Capitol Hill in Washington.  
(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

## Anger grows over looming US budget cuts

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The \$85 billion in budget cuts set to hit the U.S. on Friday were designed to be so unattractive and damaging that they would force Congress and the Obama administration to find a better way to address the country's massive deficit. Four days remain but no alter-

native is in sight, and both sides in the latest partisan battle are angrily blaming each other.

No deal means the government is forced to make drastic cuts in domestic and defense spending, a move that threatens the fragile economic recovery from the Great Re-

cession.

"The longer these cuts are in place, the bigger the impact will become," President Barack Obama told the nation's governors on Monday at the White House. He appealed again to fellow Democrats and opposition Republicans to work together to find

a solution. Despite the Friday deadline, there were no serious negotiations under way between the White House and Congress. Obama is focused instead on trying to rally public support by warning Americans of the dire consequences.

Continued on Page 4

## C. Everett Koop, ex-surgeon general, dies at 96

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## DC BRIEFS

## Senate likely to vote this week on CIA

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The chairwoman of the Senate Intelligence Committee says she expects the panel to vote later this week on the nomination of John Brennan to be director of the CIA. Sen. Dianne Feinstein said Monday the White House has agreed to provide the committee with information about the Sept. 11, 2012, attack on a U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, that killed the U.S. ambassador and three other Americans. Republicans had demanded the records as a condition of moving forward with Brennan's confirmation. But Feinstein said the Obama administration has not responded to the committee's request for more details about the classified legal opinions that justify using unmanned spy planes to kill al-Qaida suspects overseas, including American citizens. Feinstein said she anticipates the committee will vote Thursday on Brennan's nomination.

## Obama to meet on immigration with 2 top GOP

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama will meet with two top Republican lawmakers Tuesday to discuss overhauling the nation's immigration laws. A White House official says Obama will sit down with Arizona Sen. John McCain and South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham. The lawmakers are members of a larger bipartisan Senate group working on a plan to overhaul the nation's broken immigration system. The White House wouldn't say why Obama is not meeting with the other members of the group, including Republican Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida. Obama previously met with the four Democrats on the immigration panel. □

## Syria prepared to talk with armed rebels

**RYAN LUCAS**  
**Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Syria said Monday it is prepared to hold talks with armed reb-

Al-Bunni told pan-Arab broadcaster Al-Arabiya the decision was made based on guarantees al-Khatib heard from western

plosions targeted a checkpoint, adding there were initial reports of at least five regime forces killed and several wounded.

a settlement as it struggles to hold territory and claw back ground it has lost to the rebels in the nearly 2-year-old conflict.

Opposition fighters have scored several tactical victories in recent weeks, capturing the nation's largest hydroelectric dam and overtaking air bases in the northeast. In Damascus, they have advanced from their strongholds in the suburbs into neighborhoods in the northeast and southern rim of the capital, while peppering the center of the city with mortar rounds for days.

Monday night's explosion struck about 800 yards (meters) from Abbasid Square, a landmark plaza in central Damascus. It was followed by several other smaller blasts thought to be mortar shells landing in various districts of the capital. The blasts and subsequent gunfire caused panic among residents who hid in their apartments.

On Thursday, a car bomb near the ruling Baath Party headquarters in Damascus killed at least 53 people, according to state media. While the momentum appears to be shifting in the rebels' direction, the regime's grip on Damascus remains firm, and Assad's fall is far from imminent. Still, Monday's offer to negotiate with the armed opposition — those whom Assad referred to only in January as "murderous criminals" and refused to talk with — reflects the regime's realization that in the long run, its chances of keeping its grip on power are slim. □



**Free Syrian Army fighters, sing revolutionary songs as they gather at one of their caves, in Jabal al-Zaweya, in Idlib Province, Syria, Monday Feb. 25, 2013. Syria is ready to hold talks with the armed opposition trying to topple President Bashar Assad, the country's foreign minister said Monday. (AP Photo/Hussein Malla)**

els bent on overthrowing President Bashar Assad, the clearest signal yet that the regime is growing increasingly nervous about its long-term prospects to hold onto power as opposition fighters make slow but persistent headway in the civil war.

Meanwhile, the umbrella group for Syrian opposition parties said it had reversed a decision to boycott a conference in Rome being held to help drum up financial and political support for the opposition. Walid al-Bunni, a spokesman for the Syrian National Coalition, said the move came after a phone call between the group's leader, Mouaz al-Khatib, and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.

diplomats that the conference would be different this time.

He did not elaborate. The boycott had put the group at odds with its Western backers.

The Syrian talks offer, made by Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem during a visit to Moscow, came hours before residents of Damascus and state-run TV reported a huge explosion and a series of smaller blasts in the capital, followed by heavy gunfire.

State-run news agency SANA said there were multiple casualties from the explosion, which it said was a suicide car bombing. Britain-based activist group the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the ex-

The talks proposal marked the first time that a high-ranking regime official has stated publicly that Damascus would be willing to meet with the armed opposition. But al-Moallem did not spell out whether rebels would first have to lay down their weapons before negotiations could begin — a crucial sticking point in the past.

The regime's proposal is unlikely to lead to talks. The rebels battling the Syrian military have vowed to stop at nothing less than Assad's downfall and are unlikely to agree to sit down with a leader they accuse of mass atrocities. But the timing of the proposal suggests the regime is warming to the idea of

## 2 adults, 2 kids missing off California coast

**MONTEREY, California (AP)** — The U.S. Coast Guard was searching Monday for four family members, including two young children, who sent distress calls saying their sailboat was sinking near San Francisco and they were trying to make a life raft out of a cooler and a life preserver. The group was about 65 miles (104 kilometers) off

shore Sunday afternoon when the first distress call came in, Coast Guard Lt. Heather Lampert said. The boat did not have a working GPS system. The boaters said their sailboat was taking on water and their electronics were failing. The Coast Guard later lost radio contact. It has received no missing

persons' reports. The agency has not identified the family, although investigators were able to determine from the distress calls that they were a husband and wife, their 4-year-old son and his cousin, Lampert said. The National Weather Service had issued an advisory throughout the weekend warning boaters of strong

winds and rough seas around the San Francisco Bay Area.

Mariners "operating smaller vessels should avoid navigating in these conditions," the advisory said.

Lampert said Coast Guard crews searched through the night.

A California Air National Guard helicopter was assisting. □



## LATIN & CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

### Mortgage programs announced for Haiti

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)** — A U.S. government agency has announced a mortgage program that aims to help up to 4,000 families in Haiti. The U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation says the effort will combine loans from OPIC and grants from other groups. The money awarded will include \$1,000 mortgages. Financing will also be given for home repairs. Many people still need to repair their homes three years after Haiti was hit with a massive earthquake. financing is relatively new to Haiti. Most of the population is unemployed or underemployed and banks seldom offer loans to anyone but the country's tiny elite.

### Chavez congratulates Cuba's Raul Castro

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)** — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has sent a message to Raul Castro, congratulating him for his re-election as Cuba's president. Cuban lawmakers re-elected Castro on Sunday. Castro said the new five-year term will be his last as Cuba's president. In a statement released by Venezuela's foreign ministry on Monday, Chavez called Castro "a brave soldier" and expressed optimism his new term as Cuba's leader would be successful. Venezuela and Cuba have forged strong ties under Chavez. Chavez returned to Venezuela on Feb. 18, after more than two months of medical treatment in Cuba following cancer surgery.

### Dominican crash kills at least 8, injures 7

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)** — Police in the Dominican Republic say one pickup truck slammed into another packed with members of a church group, killing at least eight people. Police spokesman Maximo Baez says seven people are injured from the crash near the northern resort town of Puerto Plata. The injured were being treated Monday at a hospital in Puerto Plata. Most of the victims were Dominican but two of those killed were Haitian and the nationalities of two others were unknown. They were returning from a church service late Sunday in the town of Imbert when a tire blew out on the other pickup and the driver lost control.

### President Nieto signs education reform

**MEXICO (AP)** — President Enrique Pena Nieto has signed Mexico's most sweeping education reform in seven decades, a change widely expected to weaken the country's powerful teacher's union. Pena Nieto signed the reform Monday after it was approved by Mexico's congress and the majority of state legislatures. The legislation creates a system of uniform standards for teacher hiring and promotion, in place of a system that critics said placed excessive power in the hands of the union, even allowing teachers' positions to be sold and inherited. The reform also will allow the first census of schools, teachers and students.

### PM: Bahamas to adopt value-added tax

**NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)** — The prime minister of the Bahamas has announced plans to introduce a value-added tax to help stabilize the finances of the Caribbean country. Perry Christie says a 15 percent tax will be levied on a range of goods and services starting in July 2014. In a Monday budget report to the House, Christie also said that his administration plans to make public budget cuts but does not expect layoffs. He is also pushing for reform of the property tax system in the archipelago off Florida's east coast. The Bahamas receives most of its revenue from taxes on the tourism industry and by imposing tariffs on goods entering the country. □

## Italy elections pose political gridlock

Continued from front

His main rival, the center-left Pier Luigi Bersani, appeared headed toward victory in Parliament's lower house.

The unfolding murky result raised the possibility of new elections in the coming months and bodes badly for the nation's efforts to

which has throbbed with anger at politics as usual. The movement came against a backdrop of harsh austerity measures imposed by technocrat Premier Mario Monti — who has fared miserably in the elections. Many eligible voters didn't cast ballots, and a low turnout is gener-

a willingness to join with Monti, if necessary. But he could be hamstrung by the more left-wing of his party. His party would have to win both houses to form a stable government, and given the uncertainty of possible alliances, a clear picture of prospects for a new Italian government



Police take away a woman protesting where former Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi was voting, in Milan, Italy.

(AP Photo/Spada, Lapresse)

pass the tough reforms it needs to snuff out its economic crisis and reassure jittery markets. In New York, the Dow Jones index plunged 200 points Monday on fears over Italian election gridlock.

While Italy's postwar history has largely been one of revolving-door governments, it has never seen a hung parliament. Experts said that's likely to change now. "This has never happened before," said James Walston, a political science professor at American University of Rome. He predicted such a swirl of political chaos that new elections may need to be called as soon as this spring, when the new legislature chooses a new president who can be tapped to dissolve Parliament.

The Italian election has been one of the most fluid in the last two decades thanks to the emergence of Grillo's 5 Star Movement,

ally seen as penalizing established parties. The turnout, at under 75 percent — in a nation where it has historically been above 80 percent — was the lowest in national elections since the republic was formed after World War II. Disgust with traditional party politics likely turned off voters, although snow and rain — this was Italy's first winter time national vote — also could be a factor. The decisions Italy's government makes over the next several months promise to have a deep impact on whether Europe can decisively stem its financial crisis. As the eurozone's third-largest economy, its problems can rattle market confidence in the whole bloc and analysts have worried it could fall back into old spending habits. Bersani, a former communist, has reform credentials as the architect of a series of liberalization measures and has shown

could take days. It is all but impossible that Bersani would team up in a "grand coalition" with his arch-enemy Berlusconi.

Grillo's camp also played down the prospect of cooperation with the ex-premier, who has been embroiled in sex and corruption scandals. "Dialogue with Berlusconi? It is very difficult to imagine that Berlusconi would propose useful ideas (for the movement)," said 5 Star Movement candidate Alessandro Di Battista at Rome headquarters. "It never happened until now, but miracles happen." Italy's borrowing costs have reflected the optimism that the country will stick to its reform plans. The interest rate on Italy's 10-year bonds, an indicator of investor confidence in a country's ability to manage its debt, fell to 4.19 percent in afternoon trading Monday. □



# Anger grows over looming US budget cuts

Continued from front

White House press secretary Jay Carney said he had no new telephone calls to announce since conversations the president had last week with Republican congressional leaders. "We will continue to engage with Congress this week," Carney said. The spending cuts have frustrated governors attending the National Governors Association meeting in Washington. They say it has created widespread uncertainty in the economy and hampered economic recovery in their states. "The president needs to show leadership," said Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, a Republican considered a potential 2016 presidential contender. "This administration has an insatiable appetite for new revenue."

On Sunday, the Obama administration increased the pressure on Republicans in Congress by releasing state-by-state reports on the impact of the looming budget cuts, an effort designed to get lawmakers to compromise or face unhappy constituents at home. "The No. 1 risk, in my view, to the continuing economic comeback of Michigan is the federal government," Gov. Rick Snyder, a Republican, said in an interview. His state is the seat of the U.S. auto industry. Republican leaders in Congress were not impressed by the state-by-state reports. "The White House needs to spend less time explaining to the press how bad the (cuts) will be and more time actually working to stop it," said Michael Steel, a spokesman for House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner.

The dramatic budget cuts were designed to take effect only in case a spe-

Panetta has said the cuts would harm the readiness of U.S. fighting forces.



Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal takes questions from members of the media outside the White House in Washington, Monday, Feb. 25, 2013, following meeting between members of the National Governors Association (NGA) and President Barack Obama.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

cially established bipartisan congressional supercommittee failed to come up with \$1 trillion or more in savings from government programs. Defense Secretary Leon

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said travelers could see delayed flights. And furloughed meat inspectors could leave plants idled. The cuts, with few excep-

tions, are designed to hit all federal accounts equally. The law gives Obama little room to ease the pain. Sen. John McCain, the 2008 Republican presidential nominee, called the looming defense cuts "unconscionable" and urged Obama to call lawmakers to the White House for a last-minute budget summit. "I won't put all the blame all on the president of the United States. But the president leads," McCain told CNN. But there are few signs of urgency among congressional leaders, who have recently indicated their willingness to let the cuts take effect and stay in place for weeks, if not much longer. Obama has not been able to find enough support for his alternative approach of reducing deficits through a combination of targeted savings and tax increases. □



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# Tepid response in Miami over Castro retirement

CHRISTINE ARMARIO

Associated Press

**MIAMI (AP)** — For more than five decades, Cuban exiles in Miami have waited for the Castro brothers to be out of power.

The firmest step toward that happening came Sunday when Raul Castro announced he plans to retire as president within five years.

And yet, when the news reached Florida's shores it created little more than a quiet ripple of apathy.

"Cuba doesn't matter to me anymore," Luis Sanz, 85, said as he watched friends play dominoes.

A year after the 1959 revolution, Sanz left behind his clothing store in the Cuban city of Camaguey and

started a new life in Miami. He never returned. Many older Cubans vowed not to return until the Raul and Fidel Castro were dead.

Now it appears retirement — rather than death — will mark the end of their days in power.

Raul Castro has tapped Miguel Diaz-Canel to be his top lieutenant and possible successor. So there is no celebration in Miami. And no protest either.

"I think everybody thought there would be a way of getting even for all the things that had taken place," said Andy Gomez, a senior political fellow at the University of Miami's Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies. "It's a little bit almost anti-

climactic. It's a little bit of the same."

Raul Castro has instituted numerous economic and

social reforms since taking power after his older brother fell ill in 2006. Under his leadership, private enter-

prise has expanded, a real estate market was legalized and travel restrictions relaxed. In his speech Sunday, Castro said he hopes to establish two-term limits and age caps for political offices as well. But the core tenets of socialism will remain, he vowed.

Domingo Amuchastegui, a former Cuban diplomat in Guatemala, said the 52-year-old Diaz-Canel is unlikely to make any major departures from Raul and Fidel Castro's ideology.

"He will continue redesigning the system in Cuba, as they are redesigning it now," he said.

"It's a new conceptualization, a redesign of the socialist system, adapting, improving it."



Alberto Faustino talks to a reporter at Domino Park in the Little Havana section of Miami, Monday, Feb. 25, 2013. Cubans in Miami's Little Havana are reacting with a collective shrug at the announcement that soon neither Fidel or Raul Castro will be at the helm of the government.

(AP Photo/Alan Diaz)

# Facebook agrees to remove school shooting pages

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Connecticut (AP)

Facebook has agreed to remove some so-called tribute pages related to last year's Connecticut school shooting over concerns they're being used to exploit the tragedy, U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal said Monday.

Blumenthal and other lawmakers from the state requested the removal of offending pages in a letter to Facebook chief executive Mark Zuckerberg on Monday.

The lawmakers said some pages purportedly set up to honor the victims of the Dec. 14 shooting have been used to exploit or harass the victims' families and could be used as vehicles for financial fraud.

The lawmakers also said the pages also appear to violate Facebook's terms of use, which prohibit users from creating accounts for anyone other than themselves.

In the letter, the lawmakers said they know of more than 100 pages dedicated just one of the victims, teacher Victoria Soto.

Some contain postings from conspiracy theorists who claim the shootings were staged and that Soto

and others were actors.

"Certainly there have been many, too many, of these pages that are intimidating or harassing or exploitive," Blumenthal said. "I'm pleased that Facebook has responded positively." The lawmakers said Facebook also had received complaints from Soto's family and the family of Kaitlin Roig, a teacher who survived and has been credited with saving the lives of her students by locking the class in a small bathroom and barricading the door.

A Facebook page titled "Kaitlin Roig is a Hero" prompted some abusive posts, such as one that reads, "Congratulations Kaitlin or whatever your name is.. Now you're famous and got to meet the 'President.' You ought to be ashamed of yourself."

That post was still on the page Monday afternoon. Blumenthal said his office received a phone call Monday from Facebook officials saying they had begun removing the pages immediately.

Jodi Seth, a Facebook spokesperson, said in a statement that the company has been working closely since December

with officials, the families and their representatives to respond quickly to concerns with dedicated staff handling complaints over Sandy Hook pages.

Seth said Facebook wants

to respond quickly "while also recognizing that people across the country want to express grief for a terrible national tragedy."

"We will continue to be vigilant," Seth said in a state-

ment.

Blumenthal said they are not asking that all tribute or donation pages be removed, just the ones that are not authorized by the families.

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# Prosecutor says terror proof strong against US imam

**CURT ANDERSON**  
**AP Legal Affairs Writer**

**MIAMI (AP)** — Evidence is overwhelming from hundreds of recorded conversations and financial records that an elderly Muslim cleric enthusiastically supported the violent Pakistani Taliban terror organization, a prosecutor said in a closing argument Monday.

Quoting several passages from FBI intercepts of Hafiz Khan's conversations, Assistant U.S. Attorney Sivashree Sundaram said Khan repeatedly praised Taliban suicide bombers and grenade attacks that killed both Americans and Pakistanis.

She pointed to other recordings in which Khan said he wished a 2010 attempt by a Taliban-linked operative to detonate a bomb in New York's Times Square had succeeded.

"This is a straightforward case," Sundaram told jurors as the two-month trial drew to a close. "This defendant convicted himself with his own words and actions. These are not the words of a peace-loving man."

Khan, the 77-year-old imam at a Miami mosque, is charged with conspiracy

and terrorism material support for allegedly sending about \$50,000 between 2008 and 2010 to the help the Taliban cause in his native Pakistan. If convicted, Khan faces up to 15 years in prison on each of the

over four days in his own defense, insisting that he opposed Islamic extremists and lied about supporting them in hopes of getting \$1 million from a man he believed was another Taliban backer. In fact, that

purposes, or for a religious school called a madrassa he owns in Pakistan's Swat Valley.

Khan's attorney, Khurram Wahid, said in his closing argument that the imam was simply speaking out

tion's case was "cobbled together" with phone calls over a two-year period involving an "elderly man who clearly has problems with impulse control."

"This is America. You're able to say. You're able to think. You can't take that extra step and do something illegal," Wahid said.

Authorities have acknowledged that not every dime from Khan went to extremists. But Sundaram said Khan contradicted his own words on FBI recording in which he talked about helping wounded mujahedeen fighters and buying weapons.

"He told you the most fantastic stories," she said. "He had answers — just nothing that made sense or rang true."

Jurors are likely to begin deliberations Tuesday. While Sundaram laid out the U.S. case, the white-bearded, bespectacled Khan sat hunched at the defense table listening to a Pashto translation, occasionally grumbling aloud in that language.

Earlier Monday, U.S. District Judge Robert Scola denied a defense request to acquit Khan on all charges based on lack of evidence. To the contrary, Scola ruled that there was "more than sufficient evidence" for jurors to potentially convict Khan on all charges. Jurors were not present when the ruling was made.

Two of Khan's sons were previously charged in the same case, but Scola ordered the acquittal of one and prosecutors dropped the case against the other. Three other people, including one of Khan's daughters and his grandson, were also indicted but remain in Pakistan, which does not extradite its citizens to face U.S. criminal charges.



In this artist rendering, Hafiz Muhammed Sher Ali Khan, 76, right, and one of his sons, 24-year-old Izhar Khan, left, are shown in federal court in Miami. Trial resumed last week for Hafiz Khan, imam at a Miami mosque who is accused of funneling thousands of dollars to the Pakistani Taliban terror organization. Izhar Khan's charges were dropped.

(AP Photo/Shirley Henderson, File)

four charges. He has been jailed since his May 2011 arrest.

Khan, a naturalized U.S. citizen who came from Pakistan in 1994, testified

man was an FBI informant who wore a wire to record many of their discussions.

Khan also claimed the money he sent overseas was for family or business

strongly about Pakistan's political situation and that prosecutors had failed to show that the Taliban received the money he sent. Wahid said the prosecu-

## Ring's return brings new life for homeless man

**KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP)**

— A homeless U.S. man will soon have well over \$100,000 after returning an engagement ring to a woman who accidentally dropped it in his cup earlier this month.

Sarah Darling's fiancé set up a website seeking donations for Billy Ray Harris, who frequently panhandles on Kansas City's Country Club Plaza.

By Monday, more than 6,000 people had donated

more than \$145,000 to the fund.

"I think in our world we often jump to like the worst conclusion, and it just makes you realize that there are good people out there," Darling said.

Harris discovered the ring about an hour after Darling dumped spare change from her coin purse into his cup. She had taken off her ring earlier that day and put it with the coins.

"The ring was so big that I

knew if it was real, it was expensive," Harris told KCTV.

Darling was horrorstruck when she realized the next day what she had done. She went back to Harris, squatted beside him and told him that she might have given him something valuable.

"Was it a ring?" he recalled asking her. "And she says, 'Yeah.' And I said 'Well, I have it.'"

Darling gave Harris all the

cash she had in her wallet at the time.

"It seemed like a miracle," Darling said. "I thought for sure there was no way I would get it back."

In explaining why he didn't keep the ring, Harris said he had a religious upbringing. "My grandfather was a reverend," Harris said. "He raised me from the time I was 6 months old and thank the good Lord, it's a blessing, but I do still have some character." □



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# NYC woman: Husband wanted to kill me, eat others

L. NEUMEISTER  
TOM HAYS  
Associated Press  
NEW YORK (AP) — The es-

alive over an open fire, she said.  
"The suffering was for his enjoyment and he wanted

of potential targets. A conviction on the kidnapping count carries a possible life sentence.

pening."  
Mangan-Valle testified her husband began asking questions about where she liked to jog, what the lighting was like and whether other people were around. Using spyware on his computer, she said she uncovered gruesome photos and the names, heights, weights of women. She also found that he had visited a fetish website that featured images of dead women.  
"I was scared. ... I'd never seen that before," she said. Once Mangan-Valle fled her home and reported his strange behavior to the FBI last year, agents uncovered "a heinous plot to

kidnap, rape, murder and cannibalize a number of very real women," Jackson said.  
The officer had attempted to contact potential victims, including a New York City elementary school teacher, to learn more about their jobs and residences, the prosecutor said. His Internet research also included the best rope to tie someone up with, recipes, human flesh, white slavery and chemicals that can knock someone out, Jackson said.  
Gatto countered in her opening statement that there was "no proof of a crime here. The charges are pure fiction."□



Kathleen Mangan, center, is driven from federal court Monday, Feb. 25, 2013, in New York. Struggling to stay composed, the estranged wife of a New York City police officer testified Monday that she was shocked to find he had visited a website featuring a photo of a dead woman and other gruesome images — a discovery that led to a federal prosecution accusing him of plotting to abduct, torture and eat women.

tranged wife of a New York City police officer struggled to keep her composure Monday as she testified about discovering shocking emails and other evidence on his computer showing he had discussed killing her and abducting, torturing and eating other women.  
"I was going to be tied up by my feet and my throat slit and they were going to watch the blood drain out of me," Kathleen Mangan-Valle told a Manhattan jury.  
Mangan-Valle, 27, also read about plans to put one friend in a suitcase, wheel her out of her building and murder her. Two other women were "going to be raped in front of each other to heighten their fears," while another was going to be roasted

to make it last as long as possible," she said.  
Mangan-Valle broke down in tears several times, but the emotional peak of the day came when a defense attorney showed her pictures of Officer Gilberto Valle in uniform feeding their newborn daughter, prompting both she and Valle to openly weep as the judge sent the jury away for an afternoon break.  
The drama came on the first day of testimony at the closely watched trial of the 28-year-old Valle, a baby-faced defendant dubbed the "Cannibal Cop" by city tabloids.  
Valle is accused of conspiring to kidnap a woman and unauthorized use of a law enforcement database that prosecutors say he used to help build a list

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)  
The officer has claimed his online discussions of cannibalism were harmless fetish fantasies.  
But in opening statements on Monday, a prosecutor said "very real women" were put in jeopardy.  
"Make no mistake," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Randall Jackson. "Gilbert Valle was very serious about these plans."  
Defense attorney Julia Gatto argued that her client "never intended to kidnap anyone."  
She added: "You can't convict people for their thoughts, even if they're sick."  
A college graduate and New York Police Department patrolman, Valle appeared to be leading a normal life before "things got bad," his wife said. "Weird stuff started hap-

**SPECIAL**

**First Course**

CAJUN BEEF SALAD  
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## C. Everett Koop, ex-surgeon general, dies at 96

**CONNIE CASS  
WILSON RING  
Associated Press**

C. Everett Koop, the top U.S. health official through much of the 1980s, who spoke frankly about AIDS and railed against smoking, has died. He was 96.

An assistant at Koop's Dartmouth institute, Susan Wills, said he died Monday in Hanover, New Hampshire, where he had a home. She didn't disclose his cause of death. An evangelical Christian, he shocked his conservative supporters when he endorsed condoms and sex education to stop the spread of AIDS. Koop wielded the once low-profile post of surgeon general as a bully pulpit for seven years during the Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations. He carried out a crusade to end smoking in the United States — his goal had been to do so by 2000. A former pipe smoker, he said cigarettes were as addictive as heroin and cocaine.

Koop's impact was great, although the surgeon general has no real authority to set government policy. He described himself as "the health conscience of the country."

"My only influence was through moral suasion," Koop said just before leaving office in 1989.

By then, his Amish-style silver beard and white, braided uniform were instantly recognizable.

Out of office, he switched to business suits and bow ties but continued to promote public health causes,

from preventing childhood accidents to better training for doctors.

"I will use the written word, the spoken word and whatever I can in the electronic media to deliver health messages to this country as long as people will listen," he promised.

In 1996, he rapped Republican presidential hopeful Bob Dole for suggesting that tobacco is not invariably addictive, saying Dole's comments "either exposed his abysmal lack of knowledge of nicotine addiction or his blind support of the tobacco industry."

Although Koop eventually won wide respect with his blend of old-fashioned values, pragmatism and empathy, his nomination in 1981 met a wall of opposition from women's groups and liberal politicians.

Critics said Reagan selected Koop, a pediatric surgeon, only because of his conservative views, especially his staunch opposition to abortion.

Foes noted that Koop traveled the country in 1979 and 1980 giving speeches that predicted a progression "from liberalized abortion to infanticide to passive euthanasia to active euthanasia, indeed to the very beginnings of the political climate that led to Auschwitz, Dachau and Belsen."

But Koop, a devout Presbyterian, was confirmed after he told a Senate panel he would not use the surgeon general's post to promote his religious ideology. He

kept his word.

In 1986, he issued a frank report on AIDS, urging the use of condoms for "safe sex" and advocating sex education as early as third grade.

He also maneuvered around uncooperative Reagan administration officials in 1988 to send an educational AIDS pamphlet

pearances but booed other officials.

Koop further angered conservatives by refusing to issue a report requested by the Reagan White House, saying he could not find enough scientific evidence to determine whether abortion has harmful psychological effects on women.

Koop maintained his per-

Campaign and as an adviser to President Bill Clinton's health care reform plan.

At a congressional hearing in 2007, Koop spoke about political pressure on the surgeon general post. He said Reagan was pressed to fire him every day, but Reagan would not interfere.

Koop, worried that medicine had lost old-fashioned caring and personal relationships between doctors and patients, opened an institute to teach medical students basic values and ethics.

He also was a part-owner of a short-lived venture, drkoop.com, to provide consumer health care information via the Internet. It made its initial public offering of stock in 1999, but expenses outstripped revenue and it was out of business by the end of 2001.

Koop was born in New York's borough of Brooklyn, the only son of a Manhattan banker and the nephew of a doctor. He said by age 5 he knew he wanted to be a surgeon and at age 13 he practiced his skills on neighborhood cats.

He attended Dartmouth College and received his medical degree at Cornell Medical College, choosing pediatric surgery because so few surgeons practiced it.

In 1938, Koop married Elizabeth Flanagan and they had four children — Allen, Norman, David and Elizabeth. David, their youngest son, was killed in a mountain-climbing accident when he was 20. □



**Former Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop discusses the proposed increase of the New Hampshire cigarette tax at the governor's office in the Statehouse in Concord, N.H. Koop, who raised the profile of the surgeon general by riveting America's attention on the then-emerging disease known as AIDS and by railing against smoking, died Monday, Feb. 25, 2013, at age 96.**

(AP Photo/Andrew Sullivan)

to more than 100 million U.S. households, the largest public health mailing ever done.

Koop personally opposed homosexuality and believed sex should be saved for marriage. But he insisted that Americans, especially young people, must not die because they were deprived of explicit information about how the HIV virus was transmitted.

He became a hero to AIDS activists, who chanted "Koop, Koop" at his ap-

personal opposition to abortion, however. After he left office, he told medical students it violated their Hippocratic oath. In 2009, he wrote Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid urging that health care legislation include a provision to ensure doctors and medical students would not be forced to perform abortions. The letter briefly set off a security scare because it was hand delivered.

Koop served as chairman of the National Safe Kids



# UK argues downgrade shows need for austerity

**DANICA KIRKA**  
**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — The British government attempted Monday to cast as good a light as possible on the loss of the country's cherished triple-A credit rating, arguing it showed the need to press ahead with austerity measures to lower debt. Treasury chief George Osborne had long boasted that the triple AAA rating validated his policies of spending cuts and tax hikes, but began backing off that argument as a downgrade became increasingly likely.

On Friday, Moody's pulled the trigger, cutting Britain's rating to AA1. It said sluggish economic growth would hinder the government's ability to control rising debt levels and deal with new financial shocks. Osborne said the downgrade could not be blamed on his government's policies and underscored the need to stay the course.

"Ultimately that is the choice for Britain: we can either abandon our efforts to deal with our debt problems and make a difficult situation very much worse, or we can redouble our efforts to overcome our debts," he told lawmakers in the House of Commons. The pound dropped to \$1.5069 against the dollar — its lowest level since July 2010 — in early trading before recovering to \$1.5125. Against the euro, it



**People queue at a money exchange bureau, in London, Monday, Feb. 25, 2013. The British pound fell sharply against other currencies before stabilizing somewhat on Monday as investors reacted to the downgrade of the U.K.'s cherished triple-A credit rating.**

(AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth)

hovers around 18-month lows, with one euro worth 0.8711 pound. Because it was the first such downgrade for Britain, which unlike the U.S. or France had managed to hold onto its top rating during the global financial crisis, the knee-jerk market

reaction was negative. But experts said the rating cut was somewhat expected. "It is hardly a bolt from the blue,"

said Jonathan Loynes, the chief European economics at Capital Economics. "Moody's had the U.K. on negative watch since February 2012."

Two other ratings agencies— Fitch and Standard & Poor's — have Britain on so-called negative outlook, signaling they could also downgrade it.

Government finances have struggled to recover

as the economy has flatlined in recent years. Public sector borrowing in December, for example, was higher than expected as government spending rose faster than income.

The economy is close to falling into recession for a third time since the global financial crisis erupted.

Osborne, who abandoned his debt reduction target in a budget report in the fall, faced harsh comments in the House of Commons on Monday, with members of the opposition Labour party shouting "resign!"

## Merkel supports Turkey's EU talks

**SUZAN FRASER**  
**Associated Press**

**ANKARA, Turkey (AP)** — German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Monday the European Union should move forward with its talks with Turkey about joining the bloc, but that she remains skeptical about the nation becoming a full member.

Merkel was speaking at a joint news conference with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan amid a growing frustration in Turkey over the slow-moving membership talks and what Turkish officials say is reluctance by European nations to crack down on Turkish militants operating in their nations.

Merkel, who has long advocated a "privileged partnership" instead of EU membership for Turkey, said she remains skeptical about Ankara joining the 27-member bloc but said Germany nevertheless wants the talks to move

ahead.

"We want the process to advance, despite the fact that I have hesitations concerning Turkey's European Union full membership," Merkel said.

"We are conducting negotiations whose outcome is open-ended — that is to say the results are not known," Merkel said. She was speaking in German and her words were translated into Turkish.

Turkey began EU accession negotiations in 2005, but has made little progress since then because of a dispute with EU-member Cyprus and opposition by some in Europe to admitting a populous Muslim nation into the bloc.

Turkey has concluded negotiations on only one out of some three-dozen policy areas, or chapters, with the EU. Eight policy issues have been frozen by the EU over Turkey's refusal to allow ships and planes from the divided island of

Cyprus to enter its ports and airspace.

France, under former President Nicolas Sarkozy, held up Turkey's membership negotiations in five policy areas but has indicated recently that it may lift its opposition.

Merkel on Monday reiterated that she supports the opening of a new chapter in the stalled talks.

Erdogan has said in the past that Turkey — a member of NATO and the Group of 20 and with one of the world's fastest growing economies — might lose interest in becoming an EU member if it doesn't join by 2023 — the centenary of the founding of the Turkish republic.

The Turkish prime minister has recently accused Germany and European nations of not responding to Turkish requests for the extradition of militants wanted by Turkey, including alleged members of the autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels.

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## Sanctions relief on the table in Iranian nuclear talks

**LARA JAKES**  
**Associated Press**

**ALMATY, Kazakhstan (AP)**

— World powers, fearful of scuttling negotiations beginning this week with Iran, are offering the Islamic republic some small new sanctions relief in return for curbing its nuclear program. But officials warned Monday that it's unlikely that any compromise will be reached soon.

Negotiators set low expectations for the latest round of high-level diplomatic talks to begin Tuesday in Kazakhstan's largest city — the first since last June's meeting in Moscow that threatened to derail delicate efforts to convince Iran to stop enriching uranium to a level close to that used for nuclear warheads. The stakes couldn't be higher: the Obama administration is pushing for diplomacy to solve the impasse but has not ruled out the possibility of military intervention in Iran to prevent it from acquiring a nuclear weapon. And Israel has threatened it will use all means to stop Iran from being able to building a bomb, potentially as soon as this summer, raising the specter of a possible Mid-east war.

Tehran maintains it is enriching uranium only to make reactor fuel and medical isotopes, and insists it has a right to do so under international law. It has signaled it does not intend to stop, despite harsh international sanctions on its oil and financial sectors, and U.N. nuclear inspec-

tors last week confirmed Iran has begun a major upgrade of its program at the country's main uranium enrichment site.

The clerical regime's refusal frustrates the interna-

tain, France and Germany — also want Iran to suspend enrichment in its underground Fordo nuclear facility, and to ship its stockpile of high-grade uranium out of the country.

on Monday. He described the world powers' newest gambit as "a good offer" but declined to say what it would include.

A senior U.S. official at the talks said some sanctions

if it fails to comply with international concerns. That could include toughening the impact of the sanctions already in place by enforcing them more strictly, or imposing new sanctions altogether as Iran moves forward with its program.

Western powers have hoped that the Iranian public would suffer under sanctions so badly that the government would feel a moral obligation to slow its nuclear program. The U.S. official attributed the decline in Iranian currency, the rial, and the decrease in oil production to Western sanctions. Iran has been unimpressed with earlier offers by the powers to provide it with medical isotopes and lift sanctions on spare parts for civilian airliners, and new bargaining chips that Tehran sees as minor are likely to be snubbed as well. Iran insists, as a starting point, that world powers must recognize the republic's right to enrich uranium.

In a sign that Tehran is in no hurry to reach a compromise, Iran's foreign minister has no plans to meet with officials of the International Atomic Energy Agency Tuesday when he visits Vienna to attend an unrelated conference. Diplomats in Vienna suggested the decision by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi reflects a deadlock on the agency's attempts to probe Tehran's atomic work. IAEA officials recently suggested related talks needed to pause after dragging on without results. □



**Chief Iranian nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili, left, shakes hands with Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev prior their talks in Almaty, Kazakhstan, Monday, Feb. 25, 2013.**

(AP Photo/Pavel Mikheyev)

tional community, which has responded by slapping Iran with a host of economic sanctions that U.S. officials said have, among other things, cut the nation's daily oil output by 1 million barrels and slashed its employment rate. But, in a twist, negotiators now hope that easing some of the sanctions will make Tehran more agreeable to halting production of 20 percent enriched uranium — the highest grade of enrichment that Iran has acknowledged and one that experts say could be turned into warhead grade in a matter of months.

Negotiators from the six world powers — United States, Russia, China, Brit-

"We are pleased that they have come together for talks because it's been eight months since Moscow. We wanted to come together for talks earlier than this," said Michael Mann, spokesman for EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, who is leading the negotiations. "What's important to us is that they engage in these negotiations and take seriously what we've put on the table. "No one is expecting everyone to walk out of here with a deal, but if we can have some forward momentum and they can show a willingness to take a confidence-building step, that's very important," Mann told reporters

relief would be part of the offer to Iran but also refused to detail it. The new relief is part of a package that the U.S. official said included "substantive changes — whether you'd call them super-substantial, I'll leave to history." The official acknowledged reports earlier this month that sanctions would be eased to allow Iran's gold trade to progress, but would neither confirm nor deny they are included in the new relief offer, and spoke only on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive diplomatic talks more candidly. But at the same time, the senior U.S. official also noted the possibility that Iran would face new pressures



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## Cardinal Keith O'Brien bows out of papal conclave

GREGORY KATZ  
NICOLE WINFIELD  
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — In a season of startling change for the Catholic Church, the latest break with tradition was as unexpected as it was a wake-up call to the 115 men who will elect the next pope.

Britain's highest-ranking Catholic leader resigned and removed himself Monday from the upcoming conclave, saying he did not want allegations that he engaged in improper conduct with priests to be a distraction during the solemn process of choosing the next leader of the church's 1.2 billion-member flock.

It was the first time a cardinal has recused himself from a conclave because of personal scandal, according to Vatican historians.

The Vatican insisted that Pope Benedict XVI accepted Cardinal Keith O'Brien's resignation purely because O'Brien was nearing the retirement age of 75 — not because of the accusations.

But O'Brien himself issued a statement Monday saying he would skip the conclave because he wanted to avoid becoming the focus of media attention at such

a delicate time.

"I do not wish media attention in Rome to be focused on me — but rather on Pope Benedict XVI and on his successor," said O'Brien, who had been archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh. "However, I will pray with them and for them that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, they will make the correct choice for the future good of the church." Through his spokesman, O'Brien has contested allegations made Sunday in a British newspaper that three priests and a former priest had filed complaints to the Vatican alleging that the cardinal acted inappropriately with them.

There were no details about the behavior, and the Observer newspaper did not name the priests. It said the allegations date back to the 1980s.

The cardinal's action comes in the wake of a grassroots campaign to shame another cardinal, retired Los Angeles Cardinal Roger Mahony, into refraining from participating because of his role protecting sexually abusive priests. Mahony, however, has defiantly said he would participate in the voting for the new pope.

The difference boils down to the fact that O'Brien



People carry a wooden cross after praying in St. Peter's Square, at the Vatican, Monday, Feb. 25, 2013. (AP Photo/Dmitry Lovetsky)

himself was accused of improper behavior, whereas Mahony was shown to have covered up for other priests who raped and molested children. That distinction has long shielded bishops from Vatican sanction.

Several other cardinals who will elect the next pope

have been accused — and some have admitted — to failing to protect children from abusive priests. If all of them were to recuse themselves for negligence, the College of Cardinals would shrink by quite a few members.

Terrence McKiernan of BishopAccountability.org,

an online database of records on clergy abuse cases, urged other whistleblowers to come forward if they have information about other compromised cardinal electors.

"It is a public demonstration of the role that clerics with inside information can have in bringing accountability to a church where secrecy has led to a crisis of sexual misconduct," he said. With O'Brien's recusal and the decision of a frail Indonesian cardinal to stay home, there are expected to be 115 cardinals under age 80 who are eligible to vote in the conclave.

Separately Monday, Benedict changed the rules of the conclave, allowing cardinals to move up the start date if all of them arrive in Rome before the usual 15-day waiting period between the end of one pontificate and the start of the conclave. □

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# Ikea withdraws 'meatballs' in more than 20 countries

**KARL RITTER**

**Associated Press**

**STOCKHOLM (AP)** — Swedish furniture giant Ikea became entangled in Europe's widening meat scandal Monday, forced to withdraw meatballs from stores across Europe amid suspicions that they contained horse meat. Stores in the U.S. and Can-

drawals to stores in 21 European countries and in Hong Kong, Thailand and the Dominican Republic, all of which were getting meatballs from the same Swedish supplier.

Ikea spokeswoman Ylva Magnusson said that included most European countries, but not Russia and Norway, which use

animals raised in the U.S. and Canada," Ikea North America spokeswoman Mona Astra Liss said in a statement.

Ikea is known for its assemble-it-yourself furniture but its trademark blue-and-yellow megastores also have cafeteria-style restaurants offering Swedish dishes such as meatballs served with boiled or mashed potatoes, gravy and lingonberry jam.

European Union officials met Monday to discuss tougher food labeling rules after the discovery of horse meat in a wide range of frozen supermarket meals that were supposed to contain beef or pork. So far those foods include meatballs, burgers, kebabs, lasagna, pizza, tortelloni, ravioli, empanadas and meat pies, among other items.

Authorities say the scandal is a case of fraudulent labeling but does not pose a health risk.

Gunnar Dafgard AB, a family-owned frozen foods company in southwestern Sweden that supplies Ikea's meatballs in Europe, posted a brief statement on its website saying "the batch in question has been blocked and we are investigating the situation." Spokesman Ola Larsson said the company was conducting its own DNA tests and wouldn't comment further until it has those results.

Sweden's food safety authority said it wasn't taking any action but was waiting for Czech authorities to specify the quantity of horsemeat detected.

"If it's less than 1 percent it could mean that they handled horsemeat at the same facility. If it's more, we assess that it's been mixed into the product," said Karin Cerenius of Sweden's National Food Agency.

The Czech authority said a total of 760 kilograms (1,675 pounds) of the meatballs were stopped from reaching the shelves. □



Advertising billboards for Ikea meat balls are taken down from a parking at the Ikea store in Stockholm, Sweden, Monday, Feb. 25, 2012.

(AP Photo/Jessica Gow)

ada were not affected, Ikea said.

The company reacted after authorities in the Czech Republic said they had detected horse DNA in tests of 1-kilogram (2.2-pound) packs of frozen meatballs that were labeled as beef and pork. The Czech State Veterinary Administration said it tested two batches of Ikea meatballs and only one of them contained horse meat. It did not say how much.

Meatballs from the same batch had been sent from a Swedish supplier to 12 other European countries — Slovakia, Hungary, France, Britain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Ireland — and would be pulled off the shelves in all of them, Ikea said.

Later Monday, the company expanded the with-

drawals to stores in 21 European countries and in Hong Kong, Thailand and the Dominican Republic, all of which were getting meatballs from the same Swedish supplier.

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## No Horsing Around

**SHAWN POGATCHNIK**

**Associated Press**

**DUBLIN (AP)** — So hungry you could eat a horse? Chances are, if you've regularly consumed processed-meat products in Europe, you already have. Since Ireland published surprise DNA results on Jan. 15 showing that a third of frozen "beef" burgers in Ireland contained at least a trace of horse, food scientists in more than a dozen countries have found the animal trotting into products where it was never meant to roam. Daily revelations from an ever-increasing menu of supermarket, catering and restaurant goods have taught the world one lesson: When minced up with other meat or slathered with spices, consumers cannot tell equine from bovine in the food chain. European horse has yet to be detected in any American-sold products.

### -MEATBALLS

In fairness, IKEA never did call them beef balls. The Swedish furniture giant has discovered that its signature cafeteria dish — spiced meatballs of mixed beef and pork — also might contain horse.

Ikea said Monday it was withdrawing stocks of frozen "Kottbullar" meatballs from stores in 24 nations, including Thailand and Hong Kong in Asia and the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean. European countries affected were Austria, Belgium, Britain, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden. Somehow, the Swiss were spared. IKEA was keen to stress that its U.S.-based meatballs were all-American and not subject to recall.

### -BURGERS

This is the product that started the January stampede to Europe's DNA labs. Irish authorities doing a random quality check were shocked to find horse meat in frozen burgers produced for five Irish and British supermarkets, and eventually traced the source to Poland. The Irish producers' top two customers, Burger King's British, Irish and Danish restaurants and the British supermarket chain Tesco, quickly took their business elsewhere.

### -PIZZA

There's something rotten in Denmark, but it's not the meat itself. The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration says a product enigmatically described as "pizza meat" and sold by the Harby Slagtehus meat wholesaler contains cow, pig and horse. The company insists its customers in pizzerias across Denmark knew the topping contained horse, even if that little fact was nowhere on the ingredients list. Government vets don't believe a word of that.

### -SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE

Better make that "bolo-neighs." Many of Europe's leading makers of microwaveable frozen foods — including Birds Eye of Britain, Nestle of Switzerland, and Findus of France — found that some suppliers had mixed horse into the ground beef used for Europe's most ubiquitous pasta sauce.

### -PASTA

Not to beat a dead horse, but Europe's food-testing labs are indicating that any factory-made pasta product containing "beef" sauce or filling might be horse in drag. Among those caught at the DNA finish line are the frozen "beef" lasagnas of Birds Eye; Nestle's Buitoni brand of ravioli in Italy and fusilli in Spain; and Combino-branded tortelloni and penne in Austria. France's Comigel blamed the discovery of up to 100 percent horse in its "beef" lasagnas — sold under other brand names, including Findus and Tesco — on a complex supply chain stretching from its Luxembourg factory back via Dutch and Cypriot middlemen to Romania horse butchers. □





## Marriott Aruba Care Foundation invests in a greener Aruba!

**- In the most recent action of their community care program, 36 trees and 60 flower pots were planted and installed at Elementary School Fatima College.**

**PALM BEACH** - On Saturday February 23, 2013 the Marriott Aruba Care Foundation took the initiative to plant new trees and flower pots at local elementary school Fatima College in Dakota. Over 60 volunteers, mainly associates of the Aruba Marriott, dedicated their Saturday morning to plant thirty six fruit and vegetable trees and sixty flower pots. Care members and fami-



This "green" project provides the students of the Fatima College a better environment at school and as a part of their education program, they will continue to take care of the trees and plants," says Care Foundation President Ben Figaroa. Marriott Care Foundation's upcoming project will take place on March 16th supporting the largest Aruba volunteer program "Aruba Doet". The Marriott Aruba Care Foundation was founded in 1999 by the associates of the Aruba Marriott and has been actively contributing to the Aruba community for the past four-



lies and school children of the Fatima College all shared great enthusiasm for the project and worked together to get the job done. "The Marriott Aruba Care Foundation focuses to give back to the local community.

teen years. It embodies a living and breathing sentiment and "Spirit to Serve" within the associates who fund the Foundation through direct financial contributions. Currently over 540 associates contribute monthly to the Care Foundation. □



# Families pampered & entertained at Amazonia Churrascaria!



**PALM BEACH** - One of Aruba's most popular steakhouses, the original Brazilian-style Amazonia Churrascaria entertains meat-lovers every night, over a spectacular salad bar and an endless selection of grilled meats on giant skewers. Sara and Ryan from NJ, staying at Marriott

Surf Club, are many time repeat visitors and they enjoy the restaurant each time they visit the island. The Pietersz family dropped in on a special occasion celebrating twin birthdays, that of mom Lupita and son Jorge. The Borns and the Andersens, all four expats living on Aruba, met at

Amazonia Churrascaria for dinner. The Borns explain they come every week at least once and often bring friends along. With its fabulous 52-item fresh salad bar and sixteen prime cuts of perfectly grilled meats, just-baked homemade breads, and sinfully decadent home-



## Beauty On The Beach

### Victoria Marquez

From: Venezuela,  
this is her second  
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**EAGLE BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple who are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at

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a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were James and Carol Redenbaugh.

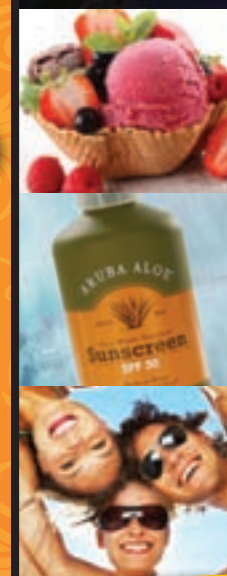


James and Carol are loyal members of the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort, and they love Aruba very much, because of the great and extremely friendly people, the weather, beaches and restaurants, and because Aruba is paradise for them.

The certificate was presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, together with Monique Gibbs representing the Casa Del Mar, and the Redenbaugh family members and friends. □

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# Saba Cultural Foundation announces Carnival 2013!



**SABA** - The Bottom, Members of the Saba Cultural Foundation, organizers of Saba's annual Summer Festival (Carnival), announced over the weekend that they have started with the planning and preparations for this year's event. Carnival will commence on Monday, July 22nd and end on Sunday, July 28, 2013.

First, slogans are being encouraged for submission on this our 38th Summer Festival; the slogan must be short, sweet and flashy. Secondly, promoters interested in having a night in the Carnival village and persons interested in participating in the grand carnival parade with a troupe or as individuals should submit their requests no later than March 15, 2013.

Finally, the committee has decided to once again have the annual Calypso Competition which is slated for Friday, July 26. All interested participants should contact Mr. Pydana Lavia or Mrs. Dahlia Lavia who will be organizing this event on behalf of the foundation. The committee is hopeful that many of the calypsonians will participate this year and invite all former calypsonians locally, as well as, abroad to register for the event.

The committee members look forward to the full participation of the Saban community and extend a warm welcome to all friends of Saba from around the world to join us for our 38th anniversary of Carnival. Let us make this a big event to remember for many years to come.

At a later date we will announce several other activities that are in the pipe line leading up to our big Carnival opening. Stay tuned! □

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**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

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## LONG PUTTERS



In this Aug. 17, 2012 file photo, Tim Clark, of South Africa, putts on the ninth green during the second round of the Wyndham Championship golf tournament in Greensboro, N.C. Associated Press

### Bradley, Clark the face of the debate

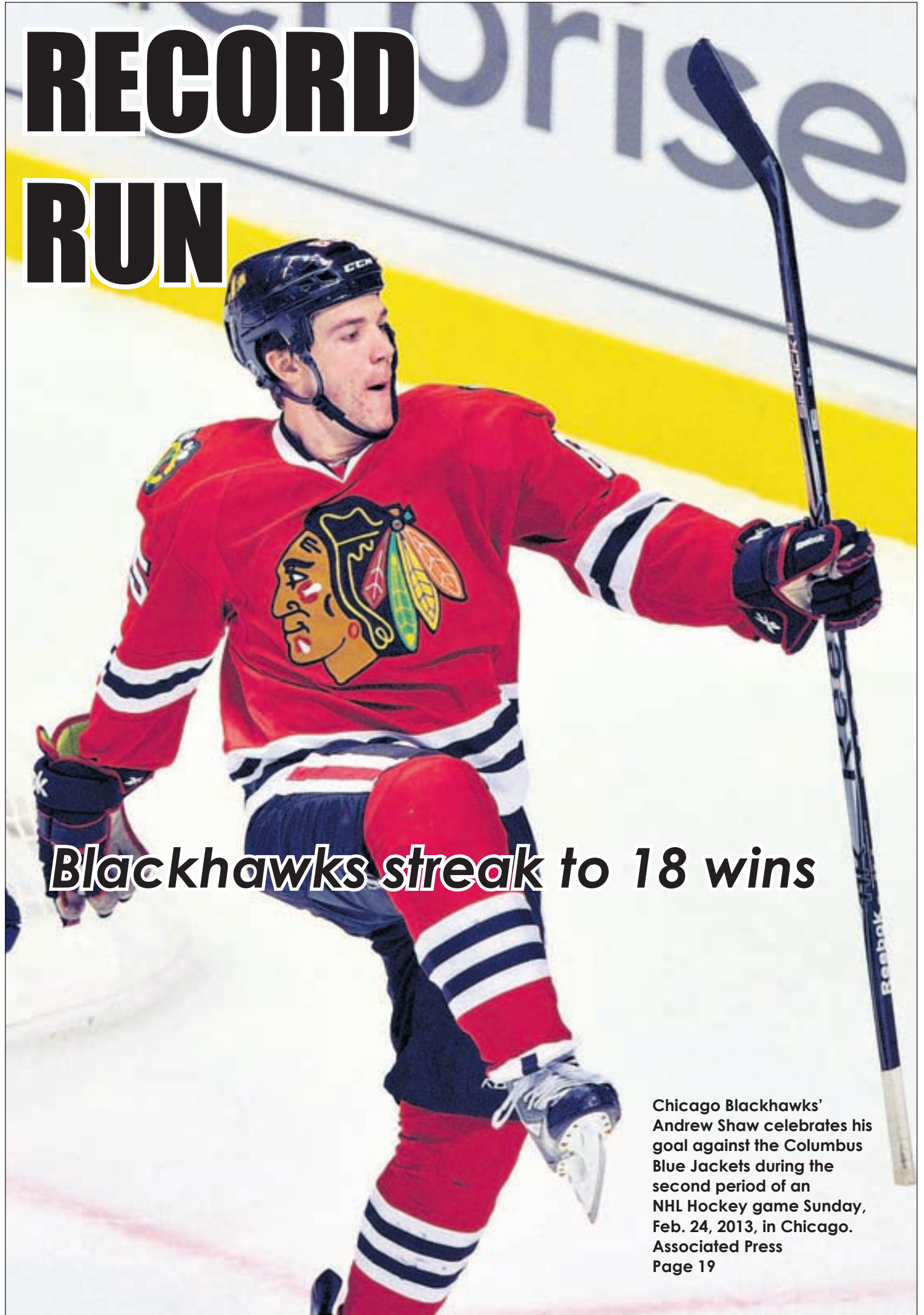
DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

**MARANA, Ariz. (AP)** — Bruce Lietzke would have noticed a banana inside the cover of his long putter. One of the famous stories about Lietzke, a 13-time winner on the PGA Tour, is that he never touched a club when he wasn't on tour. His caddie didn't believe him, so at the end of the 1984 season, he put a banana inside the head cover of Lietzke's driver before zipping up the travel bag. Some 15 weeks later at the Bob Hope Classic, the caddie excitedly unzipped the travel bag. The stench should have been the first clue. "Sure enough, he pulled off that head cover and the banana ... it was not yellow," Lietzke said Monday. "It was black, nasty, fungus. He said he'd never doubt me again."

Continued on page 20

# RECORD RUN



## Blackhawks streak to 18 wins

Chicago Blackhawks' Andrew Shaw celebrates his goal against the Columbus Blue Jackets during the second period of an NHL Hockey game Sunday, Feb. 24, 2013, in Chicago. Associated Press  
Page 19



# South Africa: will Pistorius train while on bail?

**CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA**

**RAF CASERT**

**Associated Press**

**JOHANNESBURG (AP)** —

Oscar Pistorius on Monday informed South African authorities that he wants to resume athletic training while on bail for the murder case against him, a government official said.

A spokeswoman for the Olympic runner, however, denied that he was making immediate plans to return to the track while awaiting trial for the Feb. 14 shooting death of his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp.

"Absolutely not," said spokeswoman Janine Hills. "He is currently in mourning and his focus is not on his sports."

The double-amputee Paralympian discussed bail terms with his probation officer and a correctional official at the Pretoria Magistrate's Court in the capital, Hills said. The guidelines will determine his daily routine until his next court appearance on June 4.

"It's his wish to continue to practice," James Smalberger, chief deputy commissioner of the department of correctional services, said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

Smalberger said the issue came up because authorities need to know his movements whenever he leaves the home where he is staying.

The timing of any resumption of training was uncertain.

Pistorius' longtime coach, Ampie Louw, declined to comment on any training plans for the runner, referring questions to a spokeswoman for the athlete's family.

Louw had said when the runner was in detention that he wanted to put him back into training in the event that he was granted bail. But he had also said Pistorius could be "heartbroken" and unwilling to immediately run again.

Pistorius, who was released on bail Friday, is staying at the house of his uncle, Arnold, in the affluent suburb



In this photo taken Friday July 13, 2012, Associated Press Sports Writer Gerald Imray, left, is shown by Olympic athlete Oscar Pistorius, mobile images of his bloodied limbs after extensive training at an athletics training camp in Gemona, Italy. Pistorius trained in Gemona before competing as an able-bodied competitor at the London Olympics.

of Waterkloof in Pretoria. He faces life imprisonment if convicted.

Pistorius is charged with premeditated murder in the killing of Steenkamp, in the early hours of Valentine's Day. Prosecutors

say the pair had an argument before Steenkamp was killed; Pistorius says he mistook her for an intruder and shot her accidentally. Smalberger said officials will visit Pistorius at his uncle's home at least four

times a month, and that the runner indicated his interest in training again. More planning must occur before the start of any training.

"We want a training program from his coach so

**Associated Press**

that we have backup for his movements," Smalberger said.

"He's not under house arrest, but his movements need to be known to us so that we don't pitch there and he's not there," he said. "We agree on 'free time' normally during the course of the day, and in the evening we expect him to be home."

Pistorius' 2013 season had been geared towards the Aug. 10-18 World Championships in Moscow, where the South African 4x400 relay team will be trying for another medal to add to the silver it won at the 2011 edition.

Chief Magistrate Desmond Nair had set bail at 1 million rand (\$113,000). The 26-year-old track star was also ordered to hand over his passports, turn in any guns he owns and keep away from his upscale home in a gated community in Pretoria, the scene of the crime.

He cannot leave the district of Pretoria without his probation officer's permission and is not allowed to consume drugs or alcohol, the magistrate said. □

## MLS, France launch youth coach partnership



Portland Timbers forward Ryan Johnson (9) kicks the ball against AIK during a soccer game at Jeld-Wen Field, Saturday, Feb 23, 2013, in Portland, Ore.

**RICK FREEMAN**

**AP Sports Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Major League Soccer is sending

its youth academy coaches to study abroad.

Personnel from teams in North America's top pro

league will visit France's national training center in Clairefontaine as part of a 16-month program de-

signed to raise the talent level throughout MLS.

Coaches from the French soccer federation will teach the same player development skills they use at the club level there. Material from MLS, as well as the U.S. and Canadian national federations, also will be in the curriculum.

"This partnership not only provides the league with a strategic relationship with one of the elite worldwide federations, but it also allows us to expose each of our 19 academies to the current international standard for coaching, managing and player development," MLS technical director of competition Jeff Agoos said. "Over the long term, this will help improve the overall quality of our young talent, and eventually advance our on-field product." □





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## Crawford, Shaw stretch Blackhawks' streak to 18

### Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Corey Crawford made 28 saves, and Andrew Shaw scored the only goal as the Chicago Blackhawks stretched their NHL-record, season-opening point streak to 18 games with a 1-0 victory over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Sunday night.

Crawford earned his seventh NHL shutout and second this season in his first start since Feb. 12. He outdueled Columbus' Steve Mason, who stopped 26 shots.

Shaw provided all the offense in the second period for Blackhawks (15-0-3), who haven't lost in regulation time this season and have earned 33 of 36 possible points. Chicago has won nine straight against Columbus, dating to Feb. 18, 2011.

The Blackhawks set the league record with at least one point in the first 17 games of a season when they beat San Jose 2-1 on Friday.

The 18-game point streak is also a team record for the Blackhawks, who have only lost in shootouts this season.

The Blue Jackets (5-12-2), who have an NHL-low 12 points, went 0-for-5 on the power play.

**BRUINS 4, PANTHERS 1**

Zdeno Chara and Milan Lucic scored first-period goals, and Boston beat Florida.

Chris Kelly had a power-play goal in the second, and Daniel Paille added an empty-net goal in the third. Tuukka Rask stopped 34 shots for the Bruins, who won their third straight game.

Tomas Kopecky scored a goal for Florida and Jacob Markstrom made 28 saves in his second consecutive start for the Panthers, who have lost seven of eight and five in a row at home. Paille added a short-hand-

ed, empty-net goal with 1:37 left after the Panthers pulled Markstrom for a 6-on-4 skating advantage. **RED WINGS 8, CANUCKS 3** **DETROIT (AP)** — Damien Brunner had two goals and two assists, and Joakim Andersson scored twice in Detroit's rout of Vancouver.

Henrik Zetterberg and Niklas Kronwall had a goal and two assists each, Daniel Cleary added a goal and an assist, and Jordin Tootoo also scored for Detroit, which netted three power-play goals in the second period to take the lead. Pavel Datsyuk and Jonathan Ericsson added two assists, and Jimmy Howard made 18 saves.

Daniel Sedin had two goals, and Chris Higgins also had a goal for Vancouver. Henrik Sedin had two assists, and Roberto Luongo stopped 20 shots but lost in regulation for the first time this season.

**PENGUINS 5, LIGHTNING 3** **PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Sidney Crosby had two goals and an assist to lead Pittsburgh past Tampa Bay in the host Penguins' first game since NHL MVP Evgeni Malkin was injured.

Beau Bennett scored his first career goal on a power play to help Pittsburgh take over sole possession of first place in the Atlantic Division. Matt Cooke and defenseman Paul Martin each had a goal and an assist for the Penguins, who have won five of six to tie Montreal for the top spot in the Eastern Conference. Malkin is out indefinitely after slamming back-first into the end boards during Friday night's win over Florida.

Steven Stamkos had three points for Tampa Bay, with his 13th goal and two assists. Stamkos and John Tavares of the New York Islanders are tied for the NHL

lead in goals.

Cory Conacher, the NHL's leading scorer among rookies, and defenseman Eric Brewer also scored for the Lightning, who are tied with Carolina for first place in the Southeast Division.

**JETS 4, DEVILS 2**

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)** — Evander Kane scored a breakaway goal in the second period, and Andrew Ladd added some insurance in the third to lift Winnipeg over New Jersey. Zach Bogosian scored in the first period, and Grant Clitsome had a power-play goal in the second for the Jets, who have won three of the first four of a five-game trip that concludes Tuesday in New York against the Rangers. Ondrej Pavelec made 26 saves.

Travis Zajac and Steve Bernier had goals for New Jersey, but the Devils (10-5-4) lost their fourth in five games and second at home this season. Johan Hedberg, a late-minute replacement for injured Martin Brodeur, stopped 23 shots.

Brodeur left the ice in pre-game warmups because of "a little soreness," the Devils said.

The Jets took a 1-0 lead for the sixth straight game.

**HURRICANES 4, ISLANDERS 2**

**UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP)** — Defenseman Bobby Sanguinetti's first NHL goal snapped a tie midway through the third period, and Carolina rallied to beat the New York Islanders and snap a three-game losing streak.

Sanguinetti fired a snap shot from the top of the right circle over the glove hand of goalie Kevin Poulin at 10:17. The 24-year-old defenseman, who has battled injuries throughout his career, had one assist in 20 NHL games before Sunday. Alexander Semin com-



Columbus Blue Jackets' Matt Calvert (11) tries to tip the puck past Chicago Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford (50) during the first period of an NHL hockey game Sunday, Feb. 24, 2013, in Chicago.

Associated Press

pleted the scoring with an empty-net goal with 30 seconds left.

John Tavares and Matt Moulson had given the Is-

landers a 2-0 lead midway through the first period, and New York seemed on its way to a third straight victory. □

## Redmond in good spirits after surgery

**WINNIPEG, Manitoba**

**(AP)** — Winnipeg Jets defenseman Zach Redmond is in good spirits at a Raleigh, N.C., hospital as he recovers from surgery to repair a skate cut to his right thigh.

The 24-year-old rookie suffered a gash to his right femoral artery and vein during a practice Thursday. His family released a statement Monday thanking the Jets' training staff and players for their quick action, which the Redmonds say saved his life. Redmond was accidentally cut by a teammate's skate during a drill. He was taken to the hospital and underwent a three-hour surgery. He is out indefinitely.

The family says that "Zach is currently in positive spirits,



Winnipeg Jets' Bryan Little (18), Zach Redmond (25) and Andrew Ladd (16) celebrate after Little scored the game-winning goal against the Florida Panthers during overtime of an NHL hockey game in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013.

Associated Press

and getting the rest he needs while surrounded by family and friends." □



# Federer advances to 2nd round in Dubai

**MICHAEL CASEY**

**AP Sports Writer**

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Roger Federer rallied past Tunisian wild card Malek Jaziri 5-7, 6-0, 6-2 Tuesday to reach the second round of the Dubai Championships.

The second-ranked Federer is looking for his sixth title in Dubai. He next faces Albert Montanes or Marcel Granollers.

Federer was playing the 128th-ranked Jaziri for the first time and had said he expected a "tricky" match. The Swiss star was proved right in the first set when Jaziri broke serve to go up 6-5 and closed it out with a backhand down the line.

The 17-time Grand Slam champion dominated from that point on, racing through the second set in 23 minutes and breaking Malek twice in the third set.



**Roger Federer of Switzerland greets cheering fans after his match against Thiemo De Bakker of The Netherlands at the ABN AMRO world tennis tournament at Ahoy Arena in Rotterdam, Netherlands, Thursday Feb. 14, 2013. Associated Press**

"We were both not playing really well in the beginning. We were both missing a lot of first serves, or him in par-

ticular," said Federer, who served 10 aces. "I think because I couldn't take advantage, I went from 'not so good' to really 'not so good' — and then he got better naturally."

"For me, it was important to sort of react and make sure I don't panic."

Seventh-seeded Andreas Seppi of Italy swept aside Paul-Henri Mathieu of France 6-3, 7-5, and eighth-seeded Mikhail Youzhny of Russia came from behind to beat Blaz Kavcic of Slovenia 1-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Coming off a quarterfinal loss to Julien Benneteau in Rotterdam, Federer said the tight match would serve him well for the rest of the tournament.

"It was good in terms of nerves, getting out there and having to survive difficult moments," Federer said. "Moments like this where you're just not feeling quite right but you get it done. Then all of a sudden you feel like now you're in the tournament." It was Jaziri's first match of the year because of a knee injury. "I give everything today. I did my best," said Jaziri, who has never beaten a top-10 opponent.

Top-seeded Novak Djokovic opens Wednesday against Viktor Troicki in an all-Serb match. But he got a workout Tuesday, teaming up with brother Marko in doubles against Nikolay Davydenko and Dick Norman but losing in a champions tiebreaker. □

## Long Putters

Continued from page 17

Lietzke confessed to breaking his own rules when it came to the broom-handled putter that he picked up at the Phoenix Open in 1991 and used the rest of his career. Even in his down time, he would tinker with the length of the putter and practice with it. And he wonders what the conversation would have been like today if that 1991 PGA Championship had turned out differently.

Lietzke was the runner-up at Crooked Stick behind a big-hitting rookie named John Daly. Imagine if Lietzke had won that major.

Would the USGA have banned the putter he anchored against his chest?

"I think so," Lietzke said.

"Judging by their reaction to major successes, I guess they were just waiting for this to happen. The USGA should have made a statement then. If I had won the PGA Championship, they might have tried to outlaw it. And if you look back on it, most people would have gone along with it."

That was one of the arguments PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem put forth Sunday when he said the tour was against the proposed rule that would

ban the anchored stroke primarily used for long putters and belly putters.

Without any empirical evidence that an anchored stroke is easier, why ban it? And after all these years, why now?

The faces in this discussion — and that's all it is right now — are Keegan Bradley and Tim Clark, for vastly different reasons.

It was Bradley's win at the PGA Championship that prompted serious talk about the future of anchored strokes. Bradley now is lumped in with three of the last five major champions using a belly putter, but he was the catalyst.

European Tour chief executive George O'Grady said the conversations between golf's administrators and the governing bodies about the future of the long putters began last year at the Masters.

That was before Webb Simpson won the U.S. Open and Ernie Els won the British Open, which ramped up the attention.

As for Clark?

It was his dignified speech at Torrey Pines that led even the staunch opponents of long putters to look at them differently. More than one person in the room that night has described his presentation as a game-changer.



**In this Aug. 14, 2011 file photo, Keegan Bradley celebrates on the 18th green after winning a three-hole playoff against Jason Dufner at the PGA Championship golf tournament in Johns Creek, Ga. Bradley and Tim Clark are the faces in this emerging showdown over the anchored stroke used for long putters. Associated Press**

That much was reflected in the overwhelming support from the Player Advisory Council and player-directors on the tour's policy board that the PGA Tour should oppose the USGA on this rule.

The tricky part is figuring out where this will lead.

The PGA Tour sent the USGA a letter last week spelling out its opposition to Rule 14-1(b), and the PGA of America and its 27,000 club pros are also against the ban.

One reason Finchem de-

cided to speak about the letter — a small distraction during the final of the Match Play Championship — was his concern that the discussion was being portrayed as a showdown. Right now, it's a matter of opinion. If it becomes a showdown, high noon is not until the USGA and R&A decide whether to go ahead with the rule. And that decision won't come until the spring. It's a polarizing topic. If not, the governing bodies would not have offered a 90-day comment period that ends on Thursday. They simply would have announced a new rule and been done with it.

For now, the tour has not said it will go against the USGA. It has only said it disagrees with the USGA.

Finchem chose not to show his hand when he brushed off questions about whether the tour would ever allow an anchored stroke even if the governing bodies adopt a rule that bans it starting in 2016.

But he has made clear on at least three occasions that while slightly different rules could work for the PGA Tour, this rule would not be one of them.

This is not where golf needs to go. The buzz word coming out of the USGA annual meeting earlier this month was not "bifurcation" but

"unification."

Go anywhere in the world and golf effectively is played by the same set of rules. This is something that should never change.

The USGA and R&A know they don't have evidence to show that using an anchored stroke is easier. Frankly, they don't need any evidence. This is not about equipment, rather a new rule that attempts to define the golf stroke as the club swinging freely.

The mistake by the USGA was waiting until someone won a major before acting — or believing that winning a major should even make a difference.

The majors are the biggest events to win. They define careers. But if the belly putter was an issue when Simpson won the U.S. Open, why wasn't it an issue when he won the Deutsche Bank Championship? Did the putter work differently at Olympic?

Lietzke can think of several occasions when nerves made him miss with his long putter. And if the belly putter is the cure, don't just look at Ernie Els kissing that claret jug last summer at Royal Lytham & St. Annes. Look at those two putts Els badly missed on the last few holes of the Match Play Championship to lose in the opening round. □



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## NBA Capsules

# Heat blow huge lead then beat Cavs for 11th in row

**The Associated Press**

**MIAMI (AP)** — LeBron James scored 28 points, Dwyane Wade scored 11 of his 24 in the final five minutes, and the Miami Heat extended the NBA's longest current winning streak to 11 games, beating the Cleveland Cavaliers 109-105 in a back-and-forth matchup Sunday night.

Mario Chalmers scored 16 points, Shane Battier added 14 and Ray Allen had 11 for the Heat, who took a 22-point lead early in the second half, then prevailed despite being outscored by a whopping 30 points over a 17-minute stretch.

Miami was down eight with 5:16 remaining, and still won.

Dion Waiters scored 26 points, C.J. Miles added 19 and Kyrie Irving scored 17 for Cleveland. The Cavaliers are now 1-8 against the Heat since James signed with Miami in July 2010.

Cleveland erased a 22-point deficit in the third quarter to take the lead, and led by 97-89 with 5:16 remaining — before the Heat found a way to come back.

SPURS 97, SUNS 87

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Patty Mills and Kawhi Leonard scored 16 points apiece to lead six San Antonio players in double figures, and the Spurs ended their nine-game road trip with a win over Phoenix.

The Spurs, with Tony Parker out because of a sore right triceps, finished their annual long journey — caused by a rodeo back home — at 7-2 to boost their NBA-best record to 45-13.

Tiago Splitter scored nine of his 14 in San Antonio's 35-point second quarter.

Marcin Gortat scored 21 for Phoenix, 16 in the first half.

Luis Scola added 15, and Goran Dragic had 10 points and 11 assists.

San Antonio beat the Suns for the sixth straight time and ninth in their last 10 meetings.

KNICKS 99, 76ERS 93

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Carmelo Anthony scored 29 points, Amare Stoudemire had a season-high 22 and New York snapped its longest losing streak of the season at four with a win over Philadelphia.

Anthony made 16 of 18 free throws and also was called for a flagrant foul for the fired-up Knicks, who have fallen behind Indiana into third place in the Eastern Conference and allowed their Atlantic Division lead over the Brooklyn Nets to shrink to one game.

They were sharp enough to build a couple of big leads and turn away the runs Philadelphia made, handing the 76ers their eighth straight road loss and fifth in a row overall.

Jrue Holiday had 30 points, five rebounds and five assists for the 76ers.

THUNDER 102, BULLS 72

**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)** — Russell Westbrook scored 23 points, Kevin Durant had 19 points and 16 rebounds, and Oklahoma City held Chicago to the worst shooting performance in the NBA this season.

The Thunder, who had allowed an average of 113 points over their previous four games, broke out of a rough defensive patch by limiting Chicago to 29.1 percent shooting. Midway through the third quarter, Chicago had missed 44 of its 55 shots.

The Thunder led 61-39 at that point, and the margin reached 32 with both teams' starters sitting out

the fourth quarter.

Nate Robinson and Luol Deng had 13 points apiece to lead the Bulls.

LAKERS 103, MAVERICKS 99  
**DALLAS (AP)** — Kobe Bryant had 38 points to win a scoring duel with Dirk Nowitzki, and Los Angeles beat Dallas in a matchup of teams fighting to get in the playoff race.

Bryant scored 14 in the fourth, including seven in the last 3 minutes to hold off a Dallas rally.

Nowitzki finished with 30 points and 13 rebounds for the Mavericks, who had a chance to pull virtually even with the Lakers for ninth place in the Western Conference. Houston is in eighth place, with a cushion of several games.

Former Mav Steve Nash had 13 of his 20 points in the second half in a game neither team led by more than six points.

GRIZZLIES 76, NETS 72

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Zach Randolph had 16 points and 14 rebounds, Marc Gasol scored 14 points and Memphis won its seventh straight game with a victory over Brooklyn.

Tony Allen added 12 points, including two free throws with 19.5 seconds left for a 74-72 lead.

Deron Williams, who led Brooklyn with 24 points, turned the ball over as he attempted to pass it to Mirza Teletovic. Williams then fouled Mike Conley, who sealed it with a pair of free throws.

Tayshaun Prince had 11 points to help the Grizzlies improve to 8-0 this season when holding opponents below 80 points.

C.J. Watson had 11 points and Andray Blatche added 10 for the Nets.

TRAIL BLAZERS 92, CELTICS



**Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) shoots between Cleveland Cavaliers' Wayne Ellington, rear left, and Tristan Thompson, right, during the third quarter of their NBA basketball game, Sunday, Feb. 24, 2013, in Miami.**

**Associated Press**

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**PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)** — Wesley Matthews had 24 points, including a clutch 3-pointer with less than a minute to go, and Portland snapped a seven-game losing streak with a win over Boston.

J.J. Hickson's hook shot put the Blazers ahead 86-80, but a pair of reverse layups from Paul Pierce and Brandon Bass pulled the Celtics to 86-82 with 2:54 left.

Kevin Garnett's layup with 1:46 to go tied it, but rookie Damian Lillard answered with his own layup and added a free throw to give Portland back the lead. Matthews then hit the step-back 3-pointer that gave the Blazers the final margin

with 53.9 seconds left.

Pierce had 23 points and eight assists for Boston, playing its third game in four nights.

WARRIORS 100, TIMBERWOLVES 99

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Jarrett Jack had 23 points and eight assists, and David Lee had 22 points and 13 rebounds to rally Golden State to a victory over Minnesota. The Warriors trailed by 16 in the first quarter before Jack came off the bench to jumpstart the offense — as he has all season. Fellow reserve Carl Landry added 19 points and nine rebounds for Golden State, which has won three in a row following a six-game losing streak. □





**The FDA expanded approval of the Bayer cancer pill Stivarga Monday. (Handout Photo)**

## FDA expands Bayer cancer med approval

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Monday expanded approval of a Bayer cancer pill to treat tumors of the intestinal tract that don't respond to other treatments. The drug is called Stivarga and regulators approved it to treat gastrointestinal stromal tumors that cannot be surgically removed and no longer respond to other FDA-approved drugs. The FDA previously approved Stivarga to treat colorectal cancer. It works by blocking several enzymes that promote cancer growth. The FDA approved the drug for the new use based on a study of nearly 200 patients who were randomly assigned to take Stivarga or a placebo pill. Patients taking the drug experienced a nearly four month delay in the growth of their tumors compared to taking placebo. The most common side effects of Stivarga in clinical trials included liver damage, severe bleeding, blistering and peeling of skin, high blood pressure, heart attacks and perforations. Other drugs approved to treat intestinal tumors include Gleevec and Sutent, both made by Pfizer Inc. Bayer HealthCare is a subsidiary of Germany's Bayer AG. □

# Mediterranean diets found to cut heart risks

**MARILYNN MARCHIONE**  
**AP Chief Medical Writer**

Pour on the olive oil, preferably over fish and vegetables: One of the longest and most scientific tests of a Mediterranean diet suggests this style of eating can cut the chance of suffering heart-related problems, especially strokes, in older people at high risk of them. The study lasted five years and involved about 7,500 people in Spain. Those who ate Mediterranean-style with lots of olive oil or nuts had a 30 percent lower risk of major cardiovascular problems compared to those who were told to follow a low-fat diet but who in reality, didn't cut

Most of these people were taking medicines for high cholesterol and blood pressure, and researchers did not alter those proven treatments, said one study leader, Dr. Ramon Estruch of Hospital Clinic in Barcelona. But as a first step to prevent heart problems, "we think diet is better than a drug" because it has few if any side effects, Estruch said. "Diet works." Results were published online Monday by the New England Journal of Medicine and were discussed at a nutrition conference in Loma Linda, California. People in the study were not given rigid menus or

olive oil in the chemicals and nutrients that earlier studies have suggested are beneficial. The study involved people ages 55 to 80, just over half of them women. All were free of heart disease at the start but were at high risk for it because of health problems — half had diabetes and most were overweight and had high cholesterol and blood pressure. They were assigned to one of three groups: Two followed a Mediterranean diet supplemented with either extra-virgin olive oil (4 tablespoons a day) or with walnuts, hazelnuts and almonds (a fistful a day). The third group was urged

where type of diet made a big difference. Diet had no effect on death rates overall.

The Mediterranean diet proved better even though its followers ate about 200 calories more per day than the low-fat group did. The study leaders now are analyzing how each of the diets affected weight gain or loss and body mass index. The Spanish government's health research agency initiated and paid for the study, and foods were supplied by olive oil and nut producers in Spain and the California Walnut Commission.

Many of the authors have extensive financial ties to food, wine and other industry groups but said the sponsors had no role in designing the study or analyzing and reporting its results. Rachel Johnson, a University of Vermont professor who heads the American Heart Association's nutrition committee, said the study is very strong because of the lab tests to verify oil and nut consumption and because researchers tracked actual heart attacks, strokes and deaths — not just changes in risk factors such as high cholesterol.

"At the end of the day, what we care about is whether or not disease develops," she said. "It's an important study."

Rena Wing, a weight-loss expert at Brown University, noted that researchers provided the oil and nuts, and said "it's not clear if people could get the same results from self-designed Mediterranean diets" — or if Americans would stick to them more than Europeans who are used to such foods.

Dr. George Bray of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, said he would give the study "a positive — even glowing — comment" and called it "the best and certainly one of the largest prospective dietary trials ever done."

"The data are sufficiently strong to convince me to move my dietary pattern closer to the Mediterranean Diet that they outline," he added. □



**A woman buys fruit at a market in Barcelona, Spain. One of the longest and most scientific studies of Mediterranean diets suggests this style of eating can cut the chance of suffering heart-related problems, especially strokes, in older people at high risk of them.**

(AP Photo/Emilio Morenatti)

fat very much. Mediterranean meant lots of fruit, fish, chicken, beans, tomato sauce, salads, and wine and little baked goods and pastries. Mediterranean diets have long been touted as heart-healthy, but that's based on observational studies that can't prove the point. The new research is much stronger because people were assigned diets to follow for a long time and carefully monitored. Doctors even did lab tests to verify that the Mediterranean diet subjects were consuming more olive oil or nuts as recommended.

calorie goals because weight loss was not the aim. That could be why they found the "diets" easy to stick with — only about 7 percent dropped out within two years. There were twice as many dropouts in the low-fat group than among those eating Mediterranean-style. Researchers also provided the nuts and olive oil, so it didn't cost participants anything to use these relatively pricey ingredients. The type of oil may have mattered — they used extra-virgin olive oil, which is minimally processed and richer than regular or light

to eat a low-fat diet heavy on bread, potatoes, pasta, rice, fruits, vegetables and fish and light on baked goods, nuts, oils and red meat. Independent monitors stopped the study after nearly five years when they saw fewer problems in the two groups on Mediterranean diets. Doctors tracked a composite of heart attacks, strokes or heart-related deaths. There were 96 of these in the Mediterranean-olive oil group, 83 in the Mediterranean-nut group and 109 in the low-fat group. Looked at individually, stroke was the only problem



## Mid-2013 expansion for Internet names targeted

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Hundreds of Internet address suffixes to rival “.com” should be available for people and businesses to use by the end of the year, the head of an Internet oversight agency said Monday.

The initial ones, expected in mid-2013, will likely be in Chinese and other languages besides English, said Fadi Chehade, CEO of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers.

That will be followed within

Internet address system since its creation in the 1980s. Last year, nearly 2,000 businesses and groups submitted bids for about 1,400 different names. Proponents of the new suffixes are hoping the expansion will lead to online neighborhoods of businesses and groups around specific geographic areas or industries. And with easy-to-remember “.com” names long taken, they hope to offer Internet newcomers more choices. In preparation for that expansion, Chehade said Monday that businesses

disputes themselves, such as through arbitration.

Still to be determined is whether the system will cover variations such as misspellings or the use of a trademark as part of a longer suffix, as in “iPhoneCases.” In an interview with The Associated Press, Chehade said ICANN did not want to restrict free speech or other legitimate uses.

From a technical standpoint, computers don't really care what the names are, as long as they match to a numeric Internet address that computers need

only one bidder, so those would be next in line. In making its recommendations, ICANN is considering the bidder's financial and technical capabilities, as well as any objections raised by the public.

Chehade said ICANN's initial recommendations are expected in late April, after which the winning bidders will work out operational and contractual details. The first of the new names are expected to be activated within months, with additional ones coming at a rate of about 20 a week.



In this Wednesday June 13, 2012, file photo, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, ICANN, President and Chief Executive Rod Beckstrom, speaks on expanding the number of domain name suffixes during a press conference in London.

Associated Press

weeks by English suffixes that do not have competing bidders. Although the specific names won't be announced until late April, they will come from a pool of single-bidder proposals — among them, “.aetna,” “.cadillac” and other brand names sought by companies, regional monikers such as “.vegas” and “.quebec” and generic suffixes such as “.like” and “.vacation.”

Many proposed suffixes, such as “.app,” “.music” and “.tech,” will likely take longer, however, because multiple groups have submitted bids to run them and must work out disputes.

ICANN is overseeing the largest expansion of the In-

ternet address system since its creation in the 1980s. Last year, nearly 2,000 businesses and groups submitted bids for about 1,400 different names. Proponents of the new suffixes are hoping the expansion will lead to online neighborhoods of businesses and groups around specific geographic areas or industries. And with easy-to-remember “.com” names long taken, they hope to offer Internet newcomers more choices. In preparation for that expansion, Chehade said Monday that businesses

and other trademark holders will be able to declare names they want protected, starting March 26, for an annual fee of up to \$150 per name. IBM Corp. and Deloitte will run that system, known as the Trademark Clearinghouse. Trademark holders will have a chance to register names ending in one of the new suffixes before registration opens to the general public. If a company chooses not to register the name right away, the Trademark Clearinghouse will notify the company when someone else tries to do so. The system, however, will not block that name from going through, and parties must work out

to send email and locate websites.

From a business and cultural standpoint, however, the names have come to mean much more. Names are central to many companies' branding. And the Internet feels less global when Chinese, Arabic and Russian speakers have to use English characters as part of their Internet address. ICANN received more than 100 proposals for names in other languages, the bulk of them for the Chinese equivalent of words such as “company” and “online.” ICANN's board had agreed to review those first.

Proposals for about a thousand English suffixes have

For suffixes with multiple bidders, there is no deadline for which parties must reach agreement. ICANN plans to ultimately hold an auction if competing bidders cannot reach a compromise. Meanwhile, ICANN said Monday that it would spread its operations to three locations around the world to cover all time zones. Headquarters will remain in Los Angeles, with hubs expected in Singapore and Istanbul, Turkey, by mid-2013. In an interview from Singapore, Chehade said the change would help ICANN avoid hiring a U.S.-centric staff as the Internet address system expands to accommodate users worldwide. □

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wk 7 - 1 br \$7,000  
wk 8 - 1 br \$8,000  
wk 9 - 1 br \$8,000  
sales@arubadirectdeals.com  
732-2788

198890



## GM taps VW exec to prop up Chevrolet

**The Associated Press**

**DETROIT (AP)** — General Motors has hired an executive from red-hot Volkswagen to lead the marketing of its most important brand. Tim Mahoney, VW's chief product and marketing officer since 2011, will start work April 1 as global head of marketing for the Chevrolet brand.

He'll also be responsible for overall coordination of GM's global marketing, the company said in a statement Monday.

General Motors Co.'s top marketing post has been vacant since last July, when the company forced Joel Ewanick to step down. Its marketing efforts so far have failed to substantially boost U.S. sales.

The Detroit automaker reported a 4 percent U.S. sales increase last year while overall U.S. auto sales rose 13 percent.

VW, on the other hand, has seen sales grow across the globe, especially in the U.S. Volkswagen Group's sales rose almost 31 percent in the U.S. last year.

GM Chairman and CEO Daniel Akerson said recently that marketing likely will be done by each of GM's brands rather than by the overall company.

But it was unclear if Ewanick's position will be filled. Mahoney will report to U.S. Vice President of Sales and interim global marketing chief Alan Bathey.

In his new post, Mahoney will implement Chevrolet's new marketing platform with the tagline of "Find New Roads."

This year is an important one for Chevy, with plans to roll out 20 new models worldwide. Last year 4.95 million Chevrolets were sold worldwide, by far GM's largest brand.

Before VW, Mahoney worked for Subaru of America and Porsche Cars of North America, GM said in the statement. □

## Barnes & Noble chair wants to buy retail business

**MAE ANDERSON**  
**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Barnes & Noble founder and Chairman Leonard Riggio has told the book seller he is going to try to buy the company's retail business.

The news sent shares up nearly 9 percent in midday trading.

Riggio disclosed in a regulatory filing Monday that he wants to acquire the company's stores and website, but not the business that makes the Nook e-reader or the company's college bookstores. No price was disclosed.

It's the latest attempt by a company founder to take back control of all or part of a company he founded. Best Buy's co-founder Richard Schulze is mulling a bid for the electronics retailer, and Michael Dell earlier this month announced a \$24.4 billion deal to take the namesake computer company he founded private. The deals are a way executives can have more control over companies without the need to run everything by shareholders.

"When you've got control outside public eye or public market, you can invest

and translate your strategy at your own pace," said Morningstar analyst Peter Wahlstrom.

Riggio, who founded Barnes & Noble in the 1970s and helped it expand its "big box" presence, is Barnes & Noble's largest shareholder, with nearly 30 percent of the company's shares. (While Riggio didn't found the original Barnes & Noble store in New York,

there is no set timetable for the process.

The New York-based book-seller has been struggling to find its place in the retail landscape as more readers have shifted to electronic books and competition has grown from discount stores and online competitors. It has invested heavily in its Nook e-book readers and digital library and struck a deal with Microsoft last

media revenue of less than \$3 billion. It also anticipates a loss for the unit before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization to exceed the \$262 million loss recorded in its 2012 fiscal year.

This follows a report from the retailer in January that its Nook unit revenue fell 12.6 percent to \$311 million during the critical holiday period. Overall sales during the holiday period fell 10.9 percent at bookstores and online compared with a year ago. Barnes & Noble is scheduled to report third-quarter results Thursday.

The filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission said Riggio will seek to negotiate a price with Barnes & Noble's board and pay for the deal with cash and debt.

Riggio is making the offer in order to facilitate the company's review of its strategic options for separating its Nook business, according to the filing.

Morningstar's Wahlstrom said the deal makes sense considering the retail side of the business has been overshadowed by investments needed for the Nook business. □



The exterior of a Barnes & Noble bookstore is seen in Salem, N.H. (AP Photo/Elise Amendola)

which opened in 1917, he bought the store and brand name in the 1970s to create the current-day company.)

Barnes & Noble said the offer will be considered by a committee of three independent directors. But

April to create a Nook subsidiary.

But the Nook faces tough competition from other devices like Apple's iPad Mini, Amazon's Kindle and Google's Nexus tablet.

Earlier this month, the company said it expects Nook

## KFC launches China campaign to rebuild brand

**JOE McDONALD**  
**AP Business Writer**

**BEIJING (AP)** — KFC launched a campaign Monday to rebuild its battered brand in China, promising tighter quality control after a scandal over misuse of drugs by its poultry suppliers.

The company, a unit of Yum Brands Inc., promised to test meat for banned drugs, strengthen oversight of farmers and encourage them to improve their technology.

It said more than 1,000 small producers used by its 25 poultry suppliers have been eliminated from its network.

KFC, which is China's biggest fast-food chain with more than 4,000 outlets, was hit hard when state television reported in December that some suppliers violated rules on the use of drugs to fatten chickens.

The company estimates January sales plunged 37 percent.

"Starting now, we will stress strict management and

will immediately drop any supplier that lacks the determination or the ability to manage breeding well."

The complaint against KFC



Chinese women walk past a customer eating inside a KFC restaurant at a shopping mall in Beijing Monday, Feb. 25, 2013. (AP Photo/Andy Wong)

the principle of zero tolerance in food safety," Sam Sun, the chairman of Yum Restaurants China, said at a news conference. "We

was less serious than other product scandals in China over the past decade in which infants, hospital patients and others have

been killed by phony or adulterated milk powder, drugs and other goods. But KFC's high profile attracted attention, and its status as a foreign company with less political influence meant Chinese media could publicize its troubles more freely. Yum, based in Louisville, Kentucky, said it expects sales in China to tumble by up to 25 percent in the current quarter. The company also owns Pizza Hut and Taco Bell.

Chen Hao, a stock market analyst who was having lunch at an outlet of the Japanese chain Yoshinoya in Shanghai, said Monday the KFC scandal soured him on the whole fast food industry.

"There is just no safe restaurant food in China," said Chen, 34.

"I would never let my 9-year-old boy have KFC again." □



# IHT to be rebranded International New York Times

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The International Herald Tribune, one of the most enduring brands in journalism history, is getting a new name: The International New York Times. The rebranding announced Monday comes as The New York Times Co. looks to focus on its flagship brand and expand its presence overseas. The name

change will become official later this year.

The newspaper plans to add an unspecified number of columnists and reporters. CEO Mark Thompson said in a statement that a company review led it to believe it had the potential to increase subscribers outside of the U.S.

The New York Times Media

Group, which comprises the New York Times and the IHT, garnered \$468 million in revenue in the final three months of 2012, up 6 percent from the same period a year earlier. The change continues a transformation going back to the Times' 2003 purchase of The Washington Post Co.'s 50 percent stake in the Par-

is-based newspaper. The move made the Times the IHT's full owner. The Times and the Herald Tribune already run a unified website, with visitors to IHT.com automatically sent to an international home page for the Times.

Last week, the Times Co. said it is putting The Boston Globe and its related

assets up for sale to concentrate on The New York Times brand. In September, the company sold its About.com website and related businesses for \$300 million to Barry Diller's IAC/InterActiveCorp. In January 2012, the Times sold its regional media group to Halifax Media Holdings for \$143 million. □

## Stocks drop on Italy disarray, US sequestration threat

**STEVE ROTHWELL**  
**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — U.S. stocks had their worst drop in more than three months as the prospect of political paralysis in Italy raised the specter of Europe's debt crisis flaring up again. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 216.40 points, or 1.6 percent, to 13,784.17, its biggest drop since Nov. 7.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 27.75 points, or 1.8 percent, to 1,487.85, dropping below 1,500 for the first time in three weeks. The Nasdaq composite dropped 45.57 points, or 1.4 percent, to 3,116.25.

Stocks had rallied in the early going as exit polls showed that a center-left coalition in Italy that favored economic reforms in the euro region's third-largest economy was leading. That gain evaporated after a later poll predicted

that the elections could result in a stalemate in the country's legislature.

The losses accelerate in the late afternoon as partial official results showed an upstart protest campaign led by a comedian making stunning inroads.

"There was confidence in this election and obviously confidence imploded," said Ben Schwartz, a market strategist at Lightspeed Financial.

Investors dumped Italian government bonds, sending their yields higher, and erased most of an early rally in Italy's stock market. The yield on Italy's 10-year government bond shot up to 4.43 percent from 4.12 percent early in the day, a sign that investors' confidence in Italy's government was dimming quickly. The country's benchmark stock index, the FSTE MIB, rose 0.7 percent, giving up an early gain of 4 percent.

Investors worry about the outcome of Italy's election because it could set off another crisis of confidence in

Europe and the U.S. have swooned at the prospect of Italy or Spain being dragged into the region's

Portugal and severe disruptions in financial markets.

As stocks plunged, gauges of market sentiment indicated that investors were becoming more risk-averse and parking their money in defensive assets.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which is widely considered an ultra-safe investment, fell sharply as investors plowed money into U.S. government bonds. The yield fell to 1.88 percent from 1.96 percent late Friday.

The VIX index, a measure of how volatile investors expect the stock market to be, surged 34 percent to 19, the biggest one-day move since August 2011.

On the New York Stock Exchange, Barnes & Noble rose \$1.55, or 12 percent, to \$15.06 after founder and chairman Leonard Riggio told the bookseller he is going to try to buy the company's retail business. □



Specialist John O'Hara works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Monday, Feb. 25, 2013.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

the region's shared currency, the euro.

Financial markets in both

government debt troubles, which have led to bailouts of Greece, Ireland and

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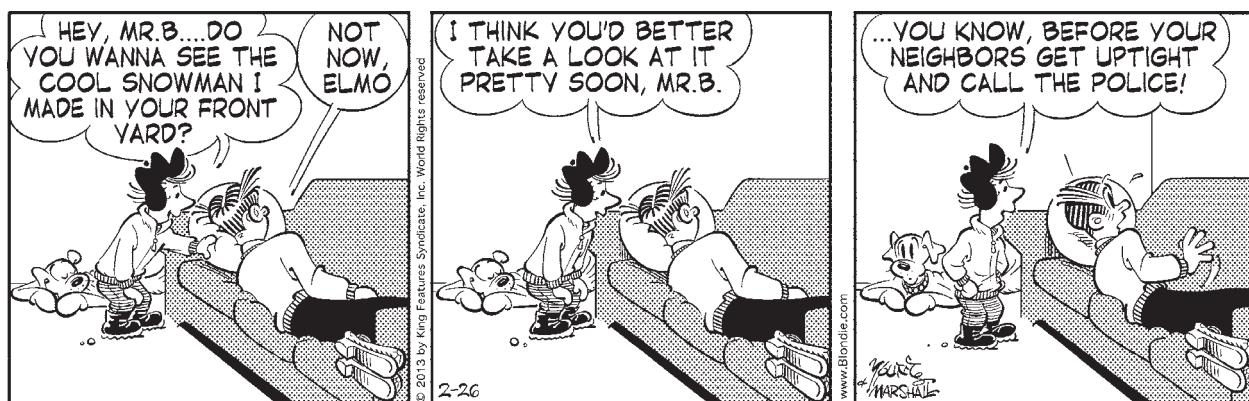
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



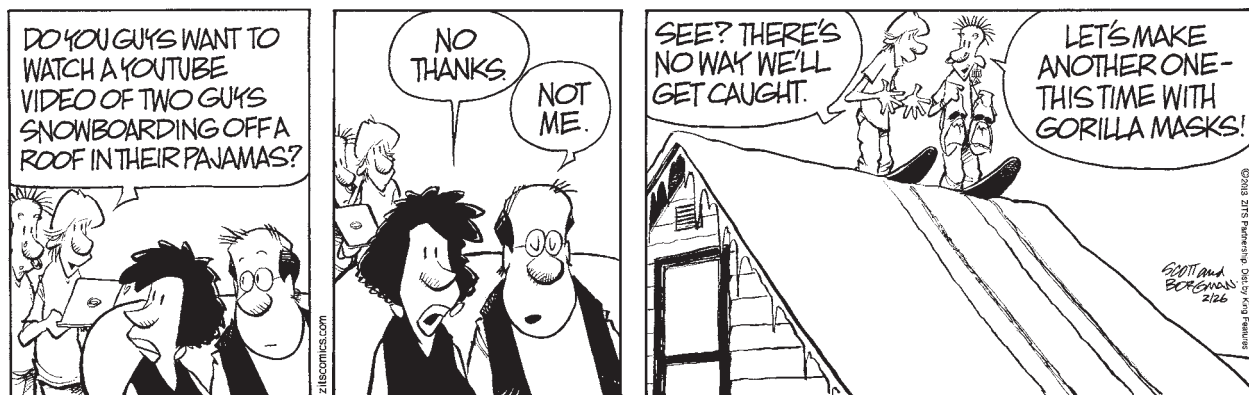
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	7		2				4	
1					8	9	6	3
			9				5	
2		6			5		1	
				4				
	5		3			6		2
	8				3			
9	4	2	8					1
	1				4		7	

Difficulty Level ★★

2/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer	3	5	6	8	9	2	1	7	4
	9	7	1	6	4	5	8	2	3
	8	4	2	3	7	1	5	6	9
	7	9	3	4	5	6	2	1	8
	5	1	8	7	2	9	4	3	6
	6	2	4	1	3	8	9	5	7
	1	6	7	2	8	4	3	9	5
	2	8	9	5	6	3	7	4	1
	4	3	5	9	1	7	6	8	2

ACROSS

- 1 Hot tubs
- 5 Closes
- 10 Celebrity
- 14 Sacred
- 15 Taut
- 16 One of the Great Lakes
- 17 Upper limbs
- 18 Each \_\_\_; one another
- 19 Seabird
- 20 Appliances that keep you warm
- 22 Toy dog with a long silky coat
- 24 BPOE member
- 25 Fight off
- 26 Hindu teacher
- 29 Helium or neon
- 30 Banquet
- 34 Throw
- 35 Colony insect
- 36 Union action
- 37 Mr. Linkletter
- 38 Sharply
- 40 Pot cover
- 41 Lubricate
- 43 \_\_\_ down; reclined
- 44 \_\_\_ on to; saved
- 45 Pancake topper
- 46 That woman
- 47 Terribly
- 48 Talk out of
- 50 Curved bone
- 51 Everlasting
- 54 Section added to a will
- 58 Contemptible
- 59 Lunch & dinner
- 61 "A \_\_\_ of Two Cities"
- 62 In a lazy way
- 63 Follow
- 64 Boats like Noah's
- 65 Meadowlands
- 66 Leaf-gathering tools
- 67 Pekoe & green

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15							16		
17					18							19		
20					21				22		23			
			24				25							
26	27	28				29				30		31	32	33
34					35				36					
37				38				39				40		
41		42				43						44		
45						46					47			
			48		49				50					
51	52	53						54				55	56	57
58						59		60				61		
62						63						64		
65						66						67		

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/26/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

FBI		OGRES		DODO
RENT		TROVE		EARN
ONCE		HIDES		SHOE
		SHAMELESS		PUPS
		CURL		IDO
BRAHMS		SMOOTHER		
JADES		THINE		ALE
ODOR		CROCS		STUB
RIP		COUPE		SUEDE
NOTABLES		MORSEL		
		USO		JEFF
SOLD		REBUTTALS		
CHAR		EXILE		CAAN
AIDE		RATIO		EDGE
NOSY		SMEAR		DEW

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2/26/13

- 42 Meadows and Hepburn
- 44 Natural environment
- 46 Capital of Montana
- 47 Auction offer
- 49 Not as wild
- 50 Popular flowers
- 51 Wicked
- 52 Popular detergent
- 53 Ms. Fitzgerald
- 54 Helpful hint
- 55 Be concerned
- 56 Actress Chase
- 57 Not as much
- 60 Invite

DOWN

- 1 Former Iranian leader's title
- 2 Skin opening
- 3 \_\_\_ mater; one's old school



# Classifieds

**DOCTOR ON DUTY**  
**Oranjestad**  
**Dr. Alvarez**

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NOORD	587-0009
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SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
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wks remaining . 8 accelerate  
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# Capt. Kirk's Vulcan entry wins Pluto moons contest

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — "Star Trek" fans, rejoice.

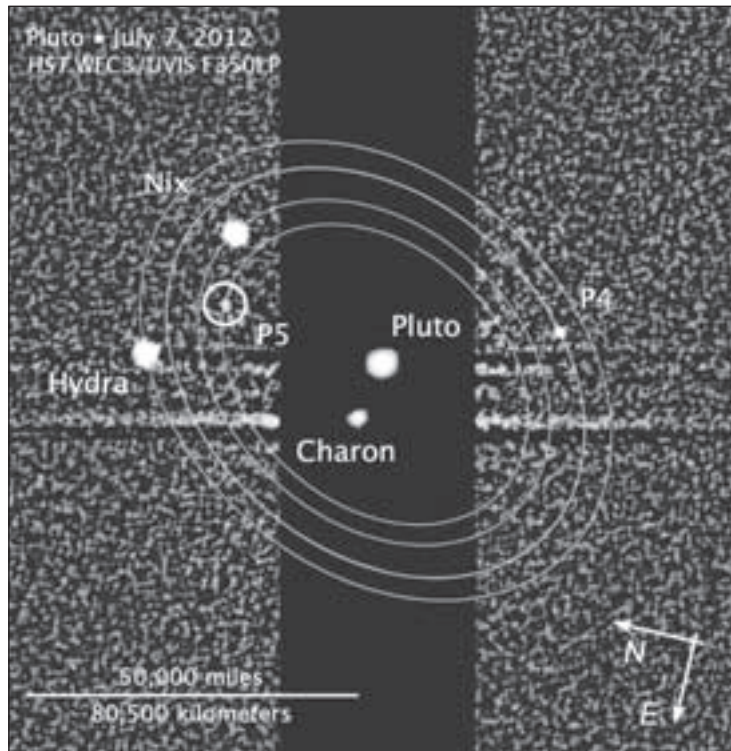
An online vote to name Pluto's two newest, itty-bitty moons is over. And No. 1 is Vulcan, a name suggested by actor William Shatner, who played Capt. Kirk in the original "Star Trek" TV series.

Vulcan snared nearly 200,000 votes among the more than 450,000 cast during the two-week contest, which ended Monday. In second place with nearly 100,000 votes was Cerberus, the three-headed dog that guarded the gates of the underworld.

Vulcan was the Roman god of lava and smoke, and the nephew of Pluto. Vulcan was also the home planet of the pointy-eared humanoids in the "Star Trek" shows. Think Mr. Spock.

"174,062 votes and Vulcan came out on top of the voting for the naming of Pluto's moons. Thank you to all who voted!" Shatner said in a tweet once the tally was complete.

Don't assume Vulcan and Cerberus are shoo-ins, though, for the two tiny moons discovered over



This file photo provided and annotated by NASA/Hubble Space Telescope shows the five moons in their orbits around Pluto.

Associated Press

the past two years with the Hubble Space Telescope. The contest was conducted by SETI Institute in Mountain View, California, the research base for the primary moon hunter. The 10 astronomers who made the discoveries will take the voting results into account, as they come up with what they consider to be the two best names.

The International Astronomical Union has the final say, and it could be another month or two before an edict is forthcoming. Now known as P4 and P5, the moons are 15 to 20 miles (24 to 32 kilometers) across. The leader of the teams that discovered the mini-moons, Mark Showalter, said Monday he is leaning toward the popular vote.

But Showalter pointed out that asteroids thought to orbit close to the sun are called vulcanoids, and there could be some confusion if a moon of Pluto were to be named Vulcan. Vulcan, in fact, was the name given in the 19th century to a possible planet believed to orbit even closer to the sun than Mercury; no such planet ever was found.

What's more, Showalter said in a phone interview, Vulcan is associated with lava and volcanoes, while distant Pluto is anything but hot.

As for Cerberus, an asteroid already bears that name, so maybe the Greek version, Kerberos, would suffice, said Showalter, a senior research scientist at SETI's Carl Sagan Center. Styx landed in No. 3 position with nearly 88,000 votes. That's the river to the underworld.

Pluto's three bigger moons are Charon, Nix and Hydra. To be considered, the potential names for the two mini-moons also had to come from Greek or Roman mythology, and deal with the underworld.

Twenty-one choices were available at the website <http://www.plutorocks.com>

when voting ended Monday. Of those, nine were write-in candidates suggested by the public, including Shatner's entry for Vulcan.

Shatner's second choice for a name, Romulus, did not make the cut. That's because an asteroid already has a moon by that name — along with a moon named Remus.

And forget the Disney connection.

"We love Mickey, Minnie and Goofy, too," Showalter informed voters a few days into the voting. "However, these are not valid names for astronomical objects. Sorry."

Altogether, 30,000 write-in candidate names poured in.

Showalter said he will keep the list handy as more moons undoubtedly pop up around Pluto once NASA's New Horizons spacecraft arrives in 2015. It will be the first robotic flyby ever of the planetoid, or dwarf planet near the outer fringes of the solar system.

"I have learned not to underestimate Pluto," Showalter wrote on the website. With so many good names available, "Pluto needs more moons!" □

## NASA Mars rover analyzing powder from drilled rock

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This undated image provided by NASA shows powdered rock in the scoop of the Mars rover Curiosity. The six-wheel rover collected the sample after drilling into a Martian rock.

Associated Press

PASADENA, California (AP)

— The Mars rover Curiosity has successfully transferred a pinch of rock dust to its onboard laboratories for inspection, two weeks after drilling into its first rock. NASA said Monday it received confirmation of the deliveries over the weekend. Scientists will spend the next several weeks studying the rock's chemical and mineral makeup. Curiosity landed in Gale Crater near the equator last summer on a mission to determine whether the environment was favorable for microbes. It drilled into a flat rock earlier this month and collected a tablespoon-size sample from the interior — the first time this was achieved on Mars. □



## Lindsay Lohan guest-starring on Sheen sitcom

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Lindsay Lohan will be playing herself, but as a therapy patient, in an upcoming episode of the FX sitcom "Anger Management." Producer Lionsgate Television says Lohan will develop a romantic relationship during her sessions with the therapist character played by series star Charlie Sheen. Lionsgate says the episode is slated to air in April. Sheen and Lohan have also recently worked together in the upcoming "Scary Movie 5," which is set to debut the same month. □



This May 21, 2006 file photo, shows actor Charlie Sheen as he arrives for a screening for a film in Cannes, France. Associated Press

## Singer Morrissey says no to Kimmel, 'Duck Dynasty'



In this Friday, Feb. 24, 2012 file photo, England's singer Morrissey performs at the 53rd annual Vina del Mar International Song Festival in Vina del Mar, Chile. Associated Press

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The TV reality series "Duck Dynasty" is coming between Morrissey and Jimmy Kimmel.

The British singer and animal rights activist says he canceled his appearance Tuesday on ABC TV's "Jimmy Kimmel Live" because "Duck Dynasty" cast members will be on the late night talk show.

Morrissey said Monday he can't perform on a show with what he called people who "amount to animal serial killers."

A&E's "Duck Dynasty" reality show follows the Robertson family of Louisiana who run a business selling duck calls and decoys.

A&E did not immediately respond to requests for comment from it and the Robertson family.

A person familiar with the Kimmel show's plans confirmed that Morrissey was to appear. The person lacked authority to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The person says Morrissey's performance will be rescheduled. □

## 'Beasts' star Quvenzhané Wallis cast as 'Annie'

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The young Oscar-nominated star of "Beasts of the Southern Wild" has been cast in the lead role of a new version of "Annie."

Sony Pictures announced Sunday that Quvenzhané (kwuh-VEHN'-juh-nay) Wallis will play Annie in a contemporized adaptation of the Broadway musical and the "Little Orphan Annie" comic strip. It's to be directed by Will Gluck, who loosely based his 2010 film "Easy A" on "The Scarlet Letter."

The 9-year-old Quvenzhané is one of the youngest Oscar-nominated actors ever. She's also shot a small role in Steve McQueen's upcoming film, "Twelve Years a Slave."

"Annie" is planned for release during the 2014 holiday season. Will Smith, Jada Pinkett Smith and Jay-Z are among the producers. The Smiths' daughter, Willow, had originally been slated to play Annie. □



Actress Quvenzhané Wallis arrives at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre on Sunday Feb. 24, 2013, in Los Angeles. Associated Press

## Janet Jackson says she married Al Mana last year



This 2012 publicity photo provided by Guttman Associates shows Janet Jackson with Wissam Al Mana, in a portrait taken by photographer, Marco Glaviano. Associated Press.

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Janet Jackson knows how to keep a secret: The singer has been married since last year.

A representative for Jackson confirmed Monday that the musician and Wissam Al Mana wed last year.

This is Jackson's second secret marriage. She secretly married Rene Elizondo Jr. in 1991. They separated in 1999.

The 46-year-old Jackson first tied the knot when she was 18 to singer James DeBarge, which lasted three months in 1984.

In a joint statement to Entertainment Tonight, Jackson and Al Mana said their wedding was a "quiet, private and beautiful ceremony."

The couple also said they would like privacy and "are allowed this time for celebration and joy." □



# Harder and harder to measure TV viewership

**DAVID BAUDER**  
**AP Television Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Every Tuesday, the Nielsen company publishes a popularity ranking of broadcast television programs that has served as the industry's report card dating back to when most people had only three networks to choose from.

And every week, that list gets less and less meaningful.

With DVRs, video on demand, game consoles and streaming services, tablets and smartphones, the way people watch television is changing and the industry is struggling to keep on top of it all. Even the idea of "watching television" is in flux. Are you "watching TV" when you stream an episode of "Downton Abbey" on a tablet?

Nielsen, which has long had a virtual monopoly on the audience statistics that drive a multi-billion dollar industry, last week took an important step toward accounting for some of the changes. Starting in September, Nielsen will begin measuring viewership through broadband devices like game consoles for the first time. Right now those numbers go uncounted.

"The ratings are a very one-dimensional look at what is happening," said Alan Wurtzel, top research executive at NBC Universal, "and we now live in a very multi-dimensional world." Nielsen's weekly rankings

count people who watch a broadcast TV show live or on their DVRs that same day through midnight on the West Coast. To be sure, this is still how most people watch television. CBS didn't need anything other than live numbers to know that its new reality show "The Job" was a flop, and canceled it a week ago after two episodes.

Through separate, less publicized rankings, Nielsen can also track how many people see a program on a time-shifted basis. One ranking, which measures live viewership plus those who watch on DVR or video on demand within three days of the original airing, is what the industry uses to set advertising rates. Other rankings measure those who watch within a week, or even within a month.

Those numbers can present a much different picture of a program's popularity. During the last week of January, for example, ABC's "Modern Family" ranked No. 12 for the week with 10.8 million viewers if you count just the people who watched on Wednesday, Jan. 23. But within seven days, 15.9 million people had seen the episode, enough to make it the third most popular show of the week behind two "American Idol" episodes. Fox's "The Following" finished a modest 15th place initially, but its audience jumped by 45 percent over the next week, enough to lift the show to fourth place.



This image released by ABC shows Eric Stonestreet, left, and Jesse Tyler Ferguson in a scene from "Modern Family."

Associated Press

Meanwhile, almost all of the "60 Minutes" viewing is done live. The CBS newsmagazine dropped from seventh place in the initial rankings to 15th after a week.

The time-shifted viewing can change a network's perception of a show. NBC would have likely canceled "The Office" years ago without this additional audience. "The idea of how many people are watching a program and caring about the show becomes increasingly important, and it is not reflected in the Tuesday report," Wurtzel said.

CBS considers its freshman drama "Elementary" a case of public perception not matching reality. Last fall, the show averaged 9.7 million viewers — respectable, but hardly a sensa-

tion. But between video on demand, DVRs and streaming, CBS said an average of 13 million people watched each episode within a month of its airing. "If the number the press had seen was 13 million instead of 9.7 million, it would have been seen as a huge hit," said David Poltrack, CBS chief researcher.

In a world where people demand information faster and faster, television executives are no different. They want ratings NOW. The problem is, all of the changes in content consumption demand patience. Nielsen's report on how many people watch a show within seven days isn't released until three weeks after a show first airs — a glacial pace.

"We have to basically train the entire industry to no

longer look at the fastest information, which is preliminary and not necessarily reflective of what the reality is," Poltrack said.

Nielsen says it regularly discusses how it releases ratings with all of its clients and there's been no consensus on change. Most people watch their favorite shows as quickly as they can, said Pat McDonough, Nielsen senior vice president of insights and analysis.

Each week the average American spends 32 hours and 15 minutes watching live television, according to a Nielsen study issued last month. More than 12 hours is spent either watching time-shifted TV or DVDs, playing on game consoles, surfing the Internet or watching video on computer or mobile devices, the study said.

"The one thing most people don't think about is a lot of the additional viewing is rolling out slowly over time and right now, live plus same day viewing is the best way to measure," she said. "It may not be that way five years from now."

Networks dispute the notion that things are changing slowly, although they are happy that Nielsen will soon be able to estimate how much television is being watched on broadband. There's a limit to the information, though: Nielsen can't yet tell specifically what programs people are watching this way. □



Author Patricia MacLachlan is seen in an undated photo provided by Random House.

Associated Press

## Author, illustrator create school shooting tribute

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The author of the children's classic "Sarah, Plain and Tall" is teaming up with an acclaimed illustrator for a tribute to the victims of last year's Connecticut school shooting. Random House Children's Books announced Monday that it will publish the picture story

"Snowflakes Fall," by Newbery Medal winner Patricia MacLachlan and her longtime friend and former resident of the community where the shooting occurred, Steven Kellogg. The book comes out Nov. 12 and will feature words and images about the community where a gun-

man killed 20 students and six faculty members. The publisher will donate a portion of proceeds to an organization that helps the Sandy Hook community.

MacLachlan won the Newbery, given to the writer of the year's best U.S. children's book, in 1986 for "Sarah, Plain and Tall." □



# The D.C. Dubstep



DAVID BROOKS

© 2013 New York Times

On July 26, 2011, Jack Lew, then the White House budget director, went to Harry Reid's office for a budget strategy session. According to Bob Woodward's book, "The Price of Politics," Lew told the Senate majority leader that they had come up with a trigger idea to force a budget deal.

"What's the idea?" Reid asked.

"Sequestration," Lew responded. Reid folded himself over with his head between his knees, as if he were going to throw up. Then he came upright and gaped at the ceiling.

"A couple of weeks ago," he exclaimed, "my staff said to me there is one more possible" enforcement method: sequestration.

Reid said he had told his staff at the time, "Get the hell out of here. That's insane. The White House surely will come up with a plan that will save the day. And you come to me with sequestration?"

Sequestration may have seemed insane back then. But politicians in both parties are secretly discovering that they love sequestration now. It allows them to do the dance moves they enjoy the most.

Democrats get to do the P.C. Shimmy. Traditional presidents go through a normal set of motions: They identify a problem. They come up with a proposal to address the problem. They try to convince the country that their proposal is the best approach.

Under the Permanent Campaign Shimmy, the president identifies a problem. Then he declines to come up with a proposal to address the problem. Then he comes up with a vague-but-politically-convenient concept that doesn't address the problem (let's raise taxes on the rich). Then he goes around the country blasting the opposition for not having as politically popular a concept. Then he returns to Washington and congratulates himself for being the only serious and substantive person in town. Sequestration allows the White House to do this all over again. The president hasn't actually come up with a proposal to avert sequestration, let alone one that is politically plausible.

He does have a vague and politically convenient concept. (Tax increases on the rich!) He does have a chance to lead the coun-

try into a budget showdown with furloughed workers and general mayhem, for which people will primarily blame Republicans. And he does have the chance to achieve the same thing he has achieved so frequently over the past two years, political success and legislative mediocrity. Republicans also secretly love the sequester. It allows them to do their favorite dance move, the Suicide Stage Dive. It was pioneered by Newt Gingrich in 1995 and has been repeated constantly since.

In this dance, the Republicans mount the stage and roar that they are about to courageously cut spending. In this anthem they carefully emphasize cuts to programs the country sympathizes with, such as special education, while sparing programs that actually created the debt problem, like Medicare.

Then, when they have worked themselves up into a frenzy of self-admiration, they sprint across the stage and leap into what they imagine is the loving arms of their adoring fans. When they are 4 feet off the ground, they realize the voters have left the building in disgust and they land with a thud on the floor.

Sequestration allows the Republicans to do the Suicide Stage Dive to perfection. Voters disdain the GOP because they think Republicans are mindless anti-government fanatics who can't distinguish good government programs from bad ones. Sequestration is a fanatically mindless piece of legislation that can't distinguish good government programs from bad ones. Sequestration carefully spares programs like Medicare and Social Security that actually contribute to the debt problem. Sequestration will cause maximum political disgust for a trivial amount of budget savings.

So, of course, the conservative press is filling up with essays with titles like "Learning to Love Sequestration." Of course, Republican legislators are screwing up their courage to embrace it. Of course, after the cuts hit and the furor rises, they are going to come crawling back with concessions as they do after every Suicide Stage Dive.

These two dance moves, the P.C. Shimmy and the Suicide Stage Dive, when combined, are beautifully guaranteed to cause maximum damage to the country. What's America's biggest problem right now? It is that business people think that government is so dysfunctional that they are afraid to invest and spur growth. So what are the parties going to do? They are going to prove that government is so dysfunctional that you'd be crazy to invest and spur growth.

In a normal country, the politicians would try some new moves. For example, if they agreed to further means test Medicare they could save a lot of money. □



# Sequester Of Fools



PAUL KRUGMAN

© 2013 New York Times

They're baaack! Just about two years ago, Erskine Bowles and Alan Simpson, the co-chairmen of the late unlamented debt commission, warned us to expect a terrible fiscal crisis within, um, two years unless we adopted their plan. The crisis hasn't materialized, but they're nonetheless back with a new version. And, in case you're interested, after last year's election – in which American voters made it clear that they want to preserve the social safety net while raising taxes on the rich – the famous fomenters of fiscal fear have moved to the right, calling for even less revenue and even more spending cuts.

But you aren't interested, are you? Almost nobody is. Bowles and Simpson had their moment – the annus horribilis of 2011, when Washington was in thrall to deficit scolds insisting that, in the face of record-high long-term unemployment and record-low borrowing costs, we forget about jobs and concentrate exclusively on a "grand bargain" that would supposedly (not actually) settle budget disputes for ever after.

That moment has now passed; even Bowles concedes that the search for a grand bargain is on "life support." Let's convene a death panel! But the legacy of that year of living foolishly lives on, in the form of the "sequester," one of the worst policy ideas

in our nation's history.

Here's how it happened: Republicans engaged in unprecedented hostage-taking, threatening to push America into default by refusing to raise the debt ceiling unless President Barack Obama agreed to a grand bargain on their terms. Obama, alas, didn't stand firm; instead, he tried to buy time. And, somehow, both sides decided that the way to buy time was to create a fiscal doomsday machine that would inflict gratuitous damage on the nation through spending cuts unless a grand bargain was reached. Sure enough, there is no bargain, and the doomsday machine will go off at the end of next week.

There's a silly debate under way about who bears responsibility for the sequester, which almost everyone now agrees was a really bad idea. The truth is that Republicans and Democrats alike signed on to this idea. But that's water under the bridge. The question we should be asking is who has a better plan for dealing with the aftermath of that shared mistake.

The right policy would be to forget about the whole thing. America doesn't face a deficit crisis, nor will it face such a crisis anytime soon. Meanwhile, we have a weak economy that is recovering far too slowly from the recession that began in 2007. And, as Janet Yellen, the vice chairwoman of the Federal Reserve, recently emphasized, one main reason for the sluggish recovery is that government spending has been far weaker in this business cycle than in the past. We should be spending more, not less, until we're close to full employment; the sequester is exactly what the doctor didn't order.

Unfortunately, neither party is proposing that we just call the whole thing off. But the proposal

from Senate Democrats at least moves in the right direction, replacing the most destructive spending cuts – those that fall on the most vulnerable members of our society – with tax increases on the wealthy, and delaying austerity in a way that would protect the economy.

House Republicans, on the other hand, want to take everything that's bad about the sequester and make it worse: canceling cuts in the defense budget, which actually does contain a lot of waste and fraud, and replacing them with severe cuts in aid to America's neediest. This would hit the nation with a double whammy, reducing growth while increasing injustice.

As always, many pundits want to portray the deadlock over the sequester as a situation in which both sides are at fault, and in which both should give ground. But there's really no symmetry here. A middle-of-the-road solution would presumably involve a mix of spending cuts and tax increases; well, that's what Democrats are proposing, while Republicans are adamant that it should be cuts only. And given that the proposed Republican cuts would be even worse than those set to happen under the sequester, it's hard to see why Democrats should negotiate at all, as opposed to just letting the sequester happen.

So here we go. The good news is that compared with our last two self-inflicted crises, the sequester is relatively small potatoes. A failure to raise the debt ceiling would have threatened chaos in world financial markets; failure to reach a deal on the so-called fiscal cliff would have led to so much sudden austerity that we might well have plunged back into recession. The sequester, by contrast, will probably cost "only" around 700,000 jobs. □



# Sleeves and straps scarce on the red carpet at the Oscars

**Eric Wilson**

© 2013 New York Times

Sleeves were in short supply and straps were so unrepresented on dresses at the Oscars on Sunday night that they might as well have been outlawed. But hold the envelope a moment: The verdict on this year's red carpet is not all that bad. At least it wasn't the usual monotonous parade of princess dresses.

In fact, it was shocking in a way to see fashion like the dress worn by Anne Hathaway. Her last-moment choice was a pale pink dress that appeared to have been styled after a household apron, as potent a symbol of feminine repression as ever there was. Only the dress, made by Miuccia Prada with a loosely tied back, featured a bodice that was intentionally subversive. The seams along the bust were so sexually suggestive that many viewers at home believed they were seeing part of Hathaway's anatomy.

"I didn't know what I was wearing until about three hours ago," Hathaway said on the red carpet, and, in fact, that would have

been around the time that Valentino had sent out a news release announcing that she would be dressed in one of its couture gowns. Hathaway evidently changed her mind, and one would like to imagine it as a sign of independence from the pull of Big Fashion. She also had on a Tiffany & Co. necklace worth a half-million dollars, but she wore it backward.

Anyone who pays the slightest attention to fashion knows the rap on actresses who wear clothes from the same designers with whom they have big advertising contracts. And though you could still detect the pull of special interests on the red carpet, there was less of a sense that actors were complicit billboards.

It was no surprise when Jennifer Lawrence, the new face of Miss Dior handbags, appeared in a Dior Haute Couture dress, the palest of pinks with a modernized ball gown shape. It was her third major awards appearance in that label. But this was the best example yet of how the house's new look, by the designer Raf Simons, could be worn in reality, which is to say

beautifully, but not without difficulty. The skirt of the gown was so big that Lawrence couldn't reach the mani-cam on E!

There's no valid argument to be made against the old Hollywood strapless gowns worn by Jessica Chastain (a custom Giorgio Armani in coppery textured satin) or Reese Witherspoon (navy Louis Vuitton with a smart bow). But were not the dresses with sleeves more interesting, more, how shall we say, new Hollywood?

While strapless designs still ruled the night, it wasn't all the same old, same old. There was that weird moment, for example, when Helen Hunt said she was wearing a strapless dress by the Swedish fast-fashion retailer H&M, not that the trend hasn't had a while to settle down into the mainstream. It seems unlikely, anyway, that Hunt just dashed in and picked a great-looking, on-trend dress off the rack. But let's not forget that Sharon Stone wore a Gap top out of her own closet back in 1996.

There were plenty of microtrends for retailers to



Jennifer Lawrence arrives at the Academy Awards ceremony at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles in a Dior Haute Couture dress, Feb. 24, 2013.

(Josh Haner/The New York Times)

chew over, like the gun-metal colors and metallic beads (Nicole Kidman in a swell L'Wren Scott, Naomi

Watts in that extraterrestrial silver Armani and Catherine Zeta-Jones in campy gold Zuhair Murad). Also, even though only seen in two examples – Hathaway's Tiffany rocks and a long, delicate Chopard chain worn by Lawrence – backward-hanging necklaces are likely to become a thing.

Jane Fonda, in a brilliant yellow Versace number that covered almost everything but a peekaboo cutout on the back, will most certainly wind up on the best dressed lists, along with Sally Field in a red pleated chiffon Valentino couture dress with a long train. And the pointed shoulders of Halle Berry's heavily beaded art deco gown might have been a little severe, but it was nice to hear that Berry had told the designer Donatella Versace that she wanted to go to the Oscars dressed as a Bond Girl, and long sleeves were part of the result. □



Jessica Chastain, wearing Giorgio Armani, arrives at the 85th Academy Awards ceremony at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, Feb. 24, 2013.

(Josh Haner/The New York Times)